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A CATALOGUE FOR ADVANCED COLLECTORS

—OF—

POSTAGE STAMPS, STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

COMPILED FROM THE MOST RECENT AUTHORITIES AND INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

BY

HENRY COLLIN AND HENRY L. CALMAN.

(*Continued.*)

TURKEY.—Continued.

III. Perforated 12½.

1010 1 pia gray blue and gray

Variety: "PIASTRE" instead of "PIASTRE"

1011 1 pia gray blue and gray

February, 1892.

Provisional issue.

2 piastre stamps of preceding issue cut diagonally in two, and each half surcharged in black with new value in triangle.

Perforated 13½.

1012 1 pia on half of 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge, upper half

1013 1 pia on half of 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge, lower half

. 1892.

Typographed on white wove paper. Size, 22½x26½ mm.

Perforated 13½.

1014 10 par gray green
1015 10 par dull green
1016 20 par pale rose
1017 20 par deep rose
1018 1 pia pale blue
1019 1 pia gray blue
1020 2 pia yellow brown
1021 5 pia pale violet

Varieties:

a. Imperforate.

1022 10 par gray green
1023 10 par dull green
1024 20 par pale rose
1025 20 par deep rose
1026 1 pia pale blue
1027 1 pia gray blue
1028 2 pia yellow brown
1029 2 pia pale violet

b. Double perforation vertically.

1030 1 pia pale blue

c. 20 para stamps printed in the color of the 2 piastres.

1031 20 par yellow brown

d. 5 piastre stamps printed in the color of the 2 piastres.

1032 5 pia yellow brown

e. Turkish numerals of value in upper right corner, read : ٥٠ (50) instead of ٥ (5)

1033 50 pia pale violet

f. *Tête bêche*, joined at the top.

1034 2 pia yellow brown

g. *Tête bêche*, joined at the bottom.

1035 2 pia yellow brown

1897.

Provisional issue.

10 para stamps of preceding issue surcharged in red with new value.

Perforated 13½.

1036 5 par on 10 par gray green, red surcharge

Variety: "Cn q" instead of "Cinq".

1037 5 par on 10 par gray green, red surcharge

STAMPS FOR PRINTED MATTER.

September, 1876.

Provisional issue.

10 para stamps of regular adhesives of corresponding date, cut diagonally in two, each half being used as a 5 para stamp.

Perforated 13½.

1501 5 par black and lilac (half of 10 paras)

May, 1879.

Regular adhesive stamps of the issue of January and September 15th, 1876, surcharged

I. Blue surcharge.

Perforated 13½.

1502 ¼ pia lilac and black, blue surcharge
1503 ¼ pia rose lilac and black, blue surcharge
1504 5 pia red and light blue, blue surcharge
1505 5 pia brick red and light blue, blue surcharge

II. Black surcharge.

Perforated 13½.

1506 10 par black & lilac, black surcharge
1507 10 par black and rose lilac, black surcharge
1508 20 par red violet and pale green, black surcharge
1509 20 par brown violet and pale green, black surcharge
1510 50 par blue & yellow, black surcharge
1511 50 par blue and dark yellow, black surcharge
1512 2 pia black and reddish brown, black surcharge
1513 2 pia black and yellow brown, black surcharge
1514 5 pia red and light blue, black surcharge
1515 5 pia brick red and light blue, black surcharge

Varieties:

a. Double surcharge.

1516 10 par black & lilac, black surcharge

b. Double surcharge, one inverted.

1517 2 pia black and yellow brown

c. Surcharge inverted.

1518 10 par black & lilac, black surcharge
1519 20 par red violet and pale green, black surcharge

Some catalogues have a large number of varieties of this issue, some printed in red or blue black, also with vertical and diagonal surcharge. We however, consider these to be, at best, merely essays.

December 14th, 1886.

Provisional issue.

I. 20 para stamps of the regular adhesives of the issue of July, 1884, cut diagonally in two, each half being used as a 10 para stamp.

Perforated 13½.

1520 10 par carmine and rose (half of 10 paras)

II. Same as I, but surcharged "10."

1° Black surcharge.

Perforated 13½.

1521 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, upper half

1522 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, lower half

Varieties:

a. Surcharge inverted.

1523 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, upper half

1524 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, lower half

b. Perforated instead of cut by scissors.

1525 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, upper half

1526 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, black surcharge, lower half

2° Blue surcharge.

Perforated 13½.

1527 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, upper half

1528 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, lower half

Varieties:

a. Surcharge inverted.

1529 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, upper half

1530 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, lower half

b. Perforated instead of cut by scissors.

1531 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, upper half

1532 10 par on half of 20 par carmine and rose, blue surcharge, lower half

1890.

Provisional Issue.

20 para stamps, of corresponding issue of regular adhesives, cut diagonally in two, each half being used as a 10 para stamp.

Perforated 13½.

1533 10 par rose and gray (half of 20 paras)

June, 1891.

Regular adhesives of the issue of 1890, surcharged in black.

I. Perforated 13½.

1534 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge

1535 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge

1536 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge

1537 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge

1538 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

Varieties:

a. Imperforate.

1539 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge

1540 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge

1541 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge

1542 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge

1543 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

b. Surcharge inverted.

1544 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge

1545 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge

1546 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge

1547 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge

1548 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

c. Surcharge sideways.

1549 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge

1550 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge

1551 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge

1552 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge

1553 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

d. Surcharge sideways, inverted.

1554 10 par dull green and gray, black charge

1555 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge

1556 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge

1557 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge

1558 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

e. 20 para stamps cut diagonally in two, each half being used as a 10 para stamp.

1559 10 par rose and gray (half of 20 paras)

f. Same as "b," Imperforate.
1560 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge

II. Perforated 11½.
1561 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge
1562 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge
1563 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge
1564 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge
1565 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

Varieties:
a. Surcharge inverted.
1566 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge
1567 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge
1568 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge
1569 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge
1570 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge
b. Surcharge sideways.
1571 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge
1572 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge
1573 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge
1574 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge
1575 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge
c. Surcharge sideways, inverted.
1576 10 par dull green and gray, black surcharge
1577 20 par rose and gray, black surcharge
1578 1 pia gray blue and gray, black surcharge
1579 2 pia greenish yellow and gray, black surcharge
1580 5 pia yellow brown and gray, black surcharge

These stamps are also given in various catalogues as being surcharged in red or blue. We have never seen any genuine surcharged in any color but black, all colored surcharges which we have seen being forgeries.

1892.

Regular adhesive stamps of corresponding date surcharged in black, as in preceding issue.

Perforated 13½.
1581 10 par gray green, black surcharge
1582 20 par rose " "
1583 1 pia pale blue " "
1584 2 pia yellow brown " "
1585 5 pia pale violet " "

Varieties:
a. Surcharge inverted.
1586 10 par gray green, black surcharge
1587 20 par rose, black surcharge
1588 1 pia pale blue " "
1589 2 pia yellow brown " "
1590 5 pia pale violet " "
b. Surcharge sideways.
1591 10 par gray green, black surcharge
1592 20 par rose " "
1593 1 pia pale blue " "
1594 2 pia yellow brown " "
1595 5 pia pale violet " "
c. Surcharge sideways, inverted.
1596 10 par gray green, black surcharge
1597 20 par rose " "
1598 1 pia pale blue " "
1599 2 pia yellow brown " "
1600 5 pia pale violet " "
d. Turkish numerals of value in upper right corner, reading (ج. 50) instead of (ج 5)
1601 50 pia pale violet, black surcharge

1893.

Regular adhesives of corresponding issue surcharged horizontally in black مطبوعه

Perforated 13½.
1602 10 par gray green, black surcharge
1603 10 par dull green " "
1604 20 par rose " "
1605 20 par deep rose " "
1606 1 pia pale blue " "
1607 1 pia gray blue " "
1608 2 pia yellow brown " "
1609 5 pia pale violet " "

Variety: Turkish numerals of value in upper right corner reading "50" instead of "5."
1610 50 pia pale violet, black surcharge

1897.

Provisional Issue.

10 para stamps of preceding issue surcharged in black, with new value.

Perforated 13½.
1611 5 par on 10 par gray green, black surcharge

Variety: "Cniq" instead of "Cinq."
1612 5 par on 10 par pale green, black surcharge

The stamps illustrated below are merely a fi-cal tax on printed matter, (newspapers, advertisements, circulars, etc.)

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.

January 1st, 1863.

Same type, impression and paper as corresponding issue of regular adhesive stamps. The control band is printed in blue. Size, 20 par and 5 pia 20x25 mm.: 1 pia 18¼x 25¾ mm.; 2 pia 19x24½ mm.

2001 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2002 20 par brown and black, blue band
2003 20 par dark brown and black, blue band
2004 20 par red brown and black, blue band
2005 20 par dark red brown and black, blue band
2006 20 par dull red and black, blue band
2007 1 pia light brown and black, blue band
2008 1 pia brown and black, blue band
2009 1 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2010 1 pia red brown and black, blue band
2011 1 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2012 1 pia dull red and black, blue band
2013 2 pia light brown and black, blue band
2014 2 pia brown and black, blue band
2015 2 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2016 2 pia red brown and black, blue band
2017 2 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2018 2 pia dull red and black, blue band
2019 5 pia light brown and black, blue band
2020 5 pia brown and black, blue band
2021 5 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2022 5 pia red brown and black, blue band
2023 5 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2024 5 pia dull red and black, blue band

According to Mr. Ed. von Neulinger, the series in brown and red brown were issued at the same time for the following purpose: If, for example, 2½ piastres were to be paid on one letter, unpaid letter stamps in two shades were always used, as, for instance, 2 pia brown and 20 par red brown, or vice versa, so that the difference in value might at once be clear to the carrier when delivering.

Varieties:

a. *Tête-bêche*, stamps being joined at top, and control band at each extremity.

2025 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2026 20 par brown and black, blue band
2027 20 par dark brown and black, blue band
2028 20 par red brown and black, blue band
2029 20 par dark red brown and black, blue band
2030 20 par dull red and black, blue band
2031 1 pia light brown and black, blue band
2032 1 pia brown and black, blue band
2033 1 pia dark brown and black, blu band

2034 1 pia red brown and black, blue band
2035 1 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2036 1 pia dull red and black, blue band
2037 2 pia light brown and black, blue band
2038 2 pia brown and black, blue band
2039 2 pia dark brown a d black, blue band
2040 2 pia red brown and black, blue band
2041 2 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2042 2 pia dull red and black, blue band
2043 5 pia light brown and black, blue band
2044 5 pia brown and black, blue band
2045 5 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2046 5 pia red brown and black, blue band
2047 5 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2048 5 pia dull red and black, blue band

b. *Tête bêche*, stamps being joined at bottom, and control band in centre.

2049 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2050 20 par brown and black, blue band
2051 20 par dark brown and black, blue band
2052 20 par red brown and black, blue band
2053 20 par dark red brown and black, blue band
2054 20 par dull red and black, blue band
2055 1 pia light brown and black, blue band
2056 1 pia brown and black, blue band
2057 1 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2058 1 pia red brown and black, blue band
2059 1 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2060 1 pia dull red and black, blue band
2061 2 pia light brown and black, blue band
2062 2 pia brown and black, blue band
2063 2 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2064 2 pia red brown and black, blue band
2065 2 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2066 2 pia dull red and black, blue band
2067 5 pia light brown and black, blue band
* 2068 5 pia brown and black, blue band
2069 5 pia dark brown and black, blue band
2070 5 pia brown red and black, blue band
2071 5 pia dark red brown and black, blue band
2072 5 pia dull red and black, blue band

c. Control band at top instead of at bottom.

2073 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2074 1 pia light brown and black, blue band
2075 2 pia light brown and black, blue band
2076 5 pia light brown and black, blue band

d. Control band printed on both sides, at bottom.

2077 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2078 2 pia light brown and black, blue band
2079 5 pia light brown and black, blue band

e. Control band printed on back of stamp, at bottom.

2080 20 par light brown and black, blue band
2081 20 par red brown and black, blue band
2082 5 pia dark brown and black, blue band

f. Control band at top and bottom.

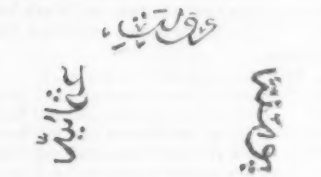
2083 20 par red brown and black, blue band
2084 5 pia dark brown and black, blue band

g. Without control band.

2085 20 par light brown and black
2086 20 par dark brown and black
2087 20 par red brown and black
2088 1 pia light brown and black
2089 1 pia dark brown and black
2090 1 pia red brown and black
2091 2 pia light brown and black
2092 2 pia dark brown and black
2093 2 pia red brown and black
2094 5 pia light brown and black
2095 5 pia dark brown and black
2096 5 pia red brown and black

January 13th, 1865.

Same type and inscriptions as corresponding issues of regular adhesives. Typographed in color on white wove paper, varying in texture. The star above the crescent is surrounded by many rays. Size 18½x21¾ mm.



On Para (10 paras) — Jirmi Para (20 paras)

Bir Grush (1 piastre) — Iki Grush (2 piastres)

Besh Grush (5 piastres) — Jirmi-besh Grush (25 piastres)

Perforated 12½.

2097 20 par chocolate and black
2098 20 par dark brown and black
2099 20 par red brown and black
2100 1 pia chocolate and black
2101 1 pia dark brown and black
2102 1 pia red brown and black
2103 2 pia chocolate and black
2104 2 pia dark brown and black
2105 2 pia red brown and black
2106 5 pia chocolate and black
2107 5 pia dark brown and black
2108 5 pia red brown and black
2109 25 pia chocolate and black
2110 25 pia dark brown and black
2111 25 pia red brown and black

This issue was also printed in two distinct shades, chocolate or dark brown and red brown, for the same reason as given for the issue of 1863.

Varieties:

a. Star surrounded by few rays.
2112 20 par dark brown and black
2113 5 pia red brown and black

b. Star without rays.
2114 20 par chocolate and black
2115 20 par dark brown and black
2116 20 par red brown and black
2117 1 pia chocolate and black
2118 1 pia dark brown and black
2119 1 pia red brown and black
2120 2 pia chocolate and black
2121 2 pia dark brown and black
2122 2 pia red brown and black
2123 5 pia chocolate and black
2124 5 pia dark brown and black
2125 5 pia red brown and black
2126 25 pia chocolate and black
2127 25 pia dark brown and black
2128 25 pia red brown and black

c. Imperforate.
2129 20 par chocolate and black
2130 20 par red brown and black
2131 1 pia chocolate and black
2132 1 pia red brown and black
2133 2 pia chocolate and black
2134 2 pia red brown and black
2135 5 pia chocolate and black
2136 5 pia red brown and black
2137 25 pia chocolate and black
2138 25 pia red brown and black

d. Imperforate, star without rays.
2139 20 par red brown and black

e. Pair imperforate between.
2140 5 pia red brown and black

f. Without Turkish inscriptions.
2141 25 pia chocolate

g. Turkish inscriptions printed on both sides.
2142 20 par red brown and back
2143 1 pia red brown and black

h. 1 piastre stamps cut in two, either diagonally, vertically or horizontally, each half being used as a half piastre stamp.
2144 ½ pia dark brown and black (half of 1 piastre)

i. 2 piastre stamps cut in two, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally, each half being used as a 1 piastre stamp.
2145 1 pia dark brown and black (half of 2 piastres)

k. 5 piastre stamps cut in two, either diagonally, vertically or horizontally, each half being used as 2½ piastres.
2146 2½ pia dark brown and black (half of 5 piastres.)

January 1st, 1867.

Same type, impression and paper as preceding issue. Turkish inscriptions are smaller.

On Para — Jirmi Para

Bir Grush — Iki Grush

Besh Grush — Jirmi-besh Grush

Perforated 12½.

2147 20 par bistre and black
2148 20 par fawn and black
2149 1 pia bistre and black
2150 1 pia fawn and black
2151 2 pia bistre and black
2152 2 pia fawn and black
2153 5 pia bistre and black
2154 5 pia fawn and black
2155 25 pia bistre and black
2156 25 pia fawn and black

Only the 20 para stamps of this issue were put in use.

Varieties:

a. Imperforate.

2157 1 pia bistre and black
2158 2 pia bistre and black
2159 5 pia bistre and black

b. 1 piastre stamps with Turkish inscription reading "Besh Grush," (5 piastres) instead of "Bir Grush," (1 piastre), imperforate.

2160 1 pia bistre and black

January 1st, 1869.

Same type, impression and paper as preceding issue. Turkish inscriptions are similar, and are printed in red brown or black brown, and are surrounded by a colored border printed in the same color as the Turkish inscriptions.

Perforated 13½.

2161 20 par bistre brown and red brown
2162 20 par yellow brown and red brown
2163 1 pia bistre brown and red brown
2164 1 pia yellow brown and red brown
2165 2 pia bistre brown and red brown
2166 2 pia yellow brown and red brown
2167 5 pia bistre brown and red brown
2168 5 pia yellow brown and red brown
2169 25 pia bistre brown and red brown
2170 20 par bistre brown and black brown
2171 1 pia bistre brown and black brown
2172 2 pia bistre brown and black brown
2173 5 pia bistre brown and black brown
2174 25 pia bistre brown and black brown

Varieties:

a. Star surrounded by a few rays.

2175 20 par yellow brown and red brown
2176 1 pia yellow brown and red brown
2177 2 pia yellow brown and red brown
2178 5 pia yellow brown and red brown
2179 25 pia yellow brown and red brown
2180 20 par bistre brown and black brown
2181 1 pia bistre brown and black brown
2182 2 pia bistre brown and black brown
2183 5 pia bistre brown and black brown
2184 25 pia bistre brown and black brown

b. Star without rays.

2185 2 pia yellow brown and red brown
2186 5 pia yellow brown aud red brown
2187 2 pia bistre brown and black brown
2188 5 pia bistre brown and black brown

c. Without Turkish inscriptions.

2189 20 par yellow brown
2190 1 pia yellow brown
2191 5 pia yellow brown
2192 25 pia yellow brown

d. Turkish inscriptions inverted.

2193 20 par yellow brown and red brown
2194 20 par bistre brown and black brown
2195 1 pia yellow brown and red brown
2196 1 pia bistre brown and black brown
2197 2 pia yellow brown and red brown
2198 2 pia bistre brown and black brown
2199 5 pia yellow brown and red brown
2200 5 pia bistre brown and black brown
2201 25 pia yellow brown and red brown
2202 25 pia bistre brown and black brown

e. Turkish inscriptions printed on reverse.

2203 20 par yellow brown and red brown

f. Turkish inscriptions on reverse inverted.

2204 20 par yellow brown and red brown

g. Turkish inscriptions on both sides.

2205 20 par yellow brown and red brown

h. 20 para stamps with Turkish inscriptions reading Iki Grush" (2 piastres) instead of "Jirmi Para" (20 paras).

2206 20 par yellow brown and red brown

i. 2 para stamps with Turkish inscriptions reading "Jirmi Para," (20 paras) instead of "Iki Grush," (2 piastres).

2207 2 pia yellow brown and red brown

k. 2 piastre stamps with Turkish inscriptions reading "Bir Grush," (1 piastre) instead of "Iki Grush," (2 piastres).

2208 2 pia yellow brown and red brown

l. Same as "h," inscription inverted.

2209 20 par yellow brown and red brown

m. Same as "i," inscription inverted.

2210 2 pia yellow brown and red brown

n. Imperforate.

2211 20 par yellow brown and red brown

o. Impression on both sides, with Turkish inscription on face only.

2212 1 pia yellow brown and red brown

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF FRANCE.

From "*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste.*"

Continued from Vol. 10, page 355.

1881-82.—*Postage due Stamps.*— Apropos of the creation of the various postage-due stamps, we have indicated in our articles on the "Postage Stamps of France," the successive systems of taxation on articles of correspondence. The provision of the 28th February, 1882, modified considerably the process that was in use, which still required the inscription on due letters by hand for all values other than 30 and 60 centimes, which alone had adhesive stamps. As this provision has resulted in the issue of a complete series of postage-due stamps from 1 centime to 5 francs, and as it gives us very interesting information as to the manner of cancelling, we reproduce here the most essential parts:

"From a date hereafter to be fixed," says this enactment, "postage-due stamps will be applied on all un franked, or insufficiently-franked articles of correspondence. Consequently, communications will cease to be taxed by the office of origin. The numeral representing the postage to be collected will be applied at the office in whose territory the letters are to be distributed. The exchange offices will indicate in red ink at the lower left hand corner of the address, on communications of foreign origin, the tax, if any, to be recovered by the office of destination. The agents of this latter office, except in cases where an error has been made, will be governed by this indication in applying the figures representing the tax due. In case of re-forwarding of taxed communications, the figures applied by the office where the communications were primarily addressed, will, at the time of re forwarding, be crossed out by two heavy dashes of the pen, in black ink, and, on the arrival of these communications at their new destination, the same method will be followed as in the case of other un-franked objects, that is to say, *other tax figures will be applied to them.*"

The ministerial instructions also provided that the letters and articles of correspondence should be taxed, "no matter how much the shortage may be, at double the value of the original tax due."

No account was therefore taken of a part of the prepayment. The tax was integral.

The creation of the complete series of postage-due stamps had been preceded by the appearance of the postage-due stamp of 30 centimes, (June, 1881).

The large model of this stamp designed by Mr. Duval, the architect, was reduced by photography, and the cuts manufactured by the usual processes of photo-engraving. The other values of the same type were issued in October, 1882.

The design of these stamps is too well known to our readers to render a description necessary. It is typographed. The value is indicated on an oblique label, and is followed by the words "*à Percevoir.*" The border has

the word "CHIFFRE" above, and "TAXE" below; "POSTES" at right and left, and, in two of the corners, the monogram R. F. The stamps are perforated 13½ : 14, just as postage stamps. They are printed in black on white paper, in sheets of 150 stamps. The values that have been issued are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 60 centimes, and 1, 2 and 5 francs.

Cancellations. As you may have noticed in the instructions of February 23rd, 1882, where communications were re-forwarded or refused, new tax figures were applied each time presentation was made to the person addressed. Collectors of postage stamps did not fail to draw profit from this method of proceeding. They refused, under all sorts of pretexts, to accept the communications which were presented to them, and did not pay the tax until the postage due stamps superposed by the office of destination seemed to them to be of sufficient number to compensate them for the tax they had to pay.

Superposed postage due stamps are very frequently met with, and we would advise our readers to make sure that the copies which they possess are not fastened upon other postage due stamps. Thus there may be agreeable surprises in store for them.

The normal cancellation of these stamps consists either of two cross dashes of the pen, in black, red or violet ink, (the two last-named colors being in violation of the ministerial instructions), or in a black triangle with teeth upon the exterior sides,—or again in a small triangle having a side of about 12 mm., printed in black or blue ink. Let us add to this the date stamps of the post offices, printed in black or blue, and we shall then have covered the various postal cancellations used on postage-due stamps. We also find a round date seal, bearing the name of the town, and "RECOUVREMENTS."

Varieties: There are few varieties in these postage-due stamps. Sometimes, especially for the smaller values, the paper has a bleuté tint, at others it is more ivoiré.

1884.—As the postal employees confused the 1, 2 and 5 franc stamps with those of 1, 2 and 5 centimes, a ministerial decree issued in February 1884, modified the color of the 1, 2 and 5 franc stamps. They were printed in brown red, on white paper. The perforation is identical with that of the preceding stamps.

Counterfeits.—The abrupt suppression of the black stamps of 1, 2 and 5 francs, and the substitution of stamps of other colors, caused an advance which was a source of temptation to counterfeiters. We dwelt at length, in No. 193 of the "Collectionneur," (page 283), upon the sale by a skillful manufacturer, of forged stamps printed in groups of at least 4, so as to permit the use of a perforating machine. A photograph of these forged stamps presents the following peculiarities: Underneath the word "CHIFFRE," which stands out in white letters on a black background, there is a line, which,

when seen through a magnifying-glass, is found to consist of two parallel lines.

The second line, that is the one underneath, is clear on the genuine stamps, while it is partly broken in the forged ones.

1892.—The series of postage-due stamps was completed in 1892 by the value 50 centimes black on white, same type and perforation as preceding.

November, 1893.—*New issue of Unpaid Letter Stamps.*—The just claims of the public led to modifications in the method of taxation. It had indeed been decreed, in 1882, that letters and other articles of correspondence should be taxed, no matter what the shortage might be, at double the value of the original postage due. This unjust method was abolished by the law of finances of 1893, since which time the tax collected is no more than double the amount of postage short.

The number of postage-due stamps necessary under this new regulation was considerably changed. A large number of values which had become useless, were suppressed. Finally a separate color was given to each value, but the new stamps were not put into service until the existing supplies were entirely exhausted.

The type has not been modified. We give here the values, with the colors and dates of issue:

5	centimes	light blue	(December 1893).
10	"	gray brown	"
15	"	light green	"
30	"	pale red	"
30	"	rose	(September 1894).
50	"	violet	(December 1893).
1	franc	rose on cream	(August 1896).

We will add here that a ministerial decree of September 1896 suppressed the unpaid letter stamps of 60 centimes and 1 franc. The stamp of 1 franc rose was current for a month in a small number of important post offices; but the same cannot be said of the 60 centimes stamp, which was never issued. Those that we meet with are colonial unpaid letter stamps perforated by skilful counterfeiters, who have likewise perforated colonial unpaid-letter stamps of 1 franc. The fraud is very easy to detect, as the pale color of the paper of the colonies differs very much from the cream color of the French postage due stamps.

Varieties.—As has been seen in the list of stamps composing the issue of 1893–96, there are two stamps of 30 centimes, one pale red, the other rose. There it is a question not of variation of shade, but of a very marked difference in the color. We do not know how this difference in color originated. As to the 10 centimes gray brown, we find it both dark and light, but this difference is only one of shade.

Taxed postal-cards.—It frequently happened that, where a postal-card was taxed, the person to whom it was addressed rapidly acquainted himself with its contents, and then returned it to the carrier, without paying the tax. The postal authorities, in order to obviate frauds of this kind, introduced special envelopes of brownish white paper, in which taxed postal-cards are placed. The envelope, in addition to various indications of service, bears the address of the person who is to receive it, as well as the adhesive postage-due stamps.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

By John N. Luff.

The London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 has passed into history. The delights of this life are transient. More's the pity. Yet, after all, it may not be a pity. Too much cake is not healthy for children and too much philatelic exhibition is calculated to produce mental and physical dyspepsia.

But while it lasted it was a most emphatic success and a continued delight to all who attended it.

When the Queen of Sheba came in barbaric state to the court of Solomon the magnificent, and saw its regal splendors, she was forced to admit the half had not been told her. And we who visited this exhibition could but repeat the old admission. Great as were our expectations, the results exceeded them. The list of promoters and exhibitors included many of the best known names in philately and led us to expect much but their efforts surpassed their promises. When we paused to consider how much thought, labor, patience and sacrifice of personal convenience must have been involved, we could better appreciate the result and felt that too much praise could not be awarded. Where the efforts of so many were concerned it would be invidious to attempt to praise individually. I can only say that the unanimous sentiment of those who attended the the banquet of the London Philatelic Society, in awarding the heartiest thanks to the Honorary Secretary of the Society and the Exhibition, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, was beyond doubt sincere and deserved.

The exhibition was favored by the patronage and presence of royalty. Its patrons were H. R. H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Duke of Edinburgh, K. G., H. R. H. the Duke of York, K. G. and His Grace the Duke of Nofolk, K. G. (Her Majesty's Postmaster-General.)

At 3 o'clock on the afternoon of July 22nd, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York arrived at the exhibition rooms and, after the members of the Reception Committee had been presented, His Royal Highness declared the exhibition open. The distinguished visitors then made the rounds of the exhibition under the guidance of the Committee, the honor of conducting the Duchess of York falling to Mr. M. P. Castle, President of the Exhibition Committee and Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society. With such an earnest and able philatelist as a guide it is not to be doubted that Her Royal Highness left the exhibition with an increased knowledge of and respects for philately.

The next morning their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York, paid the exhibition a quite informal and unexpected visit somewhat to the consternation, I fear, of my good friend Castle who was not dressed in his "best bib and tucker", but for his labors as President of the Judges.

On a third occasion the Duke of York visited the exhibition and spent some hours studying the stamps At this time the judges were presented to His Royal Highness who displayed special courtesy to the foreign judges, speaking with each for some time in his own language.

The social side of the exhibition was an undoubted success The smile of the Learned J. P. and Head-keeper of the Philatelic Zoo had not been forgotten and thoughtful ones remembered that animals must be fed. So at frequent intervals the ravening wolves of philatelists and the dear little baa lambs of dealers (as the J. P. did *not* remark but as his words were construed)

were gathered together and given to eat and drink. It was very agreeable at the time, but as a preparation for an ocean voyage it is not to be commended.

The first of the festivities was an excursion to Oakley Court, Mr. W. B Avery's delightful place on the banks of the Thames. The party, which included most of the prominent philatelists attending the exhibition, went first by railway to Taplow. There we took a steam launch for a trip up the river as far as the beautiful Cleveden Reach, and, turning, proceeded to Oakley Court. Here we were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Avery and Miss Castle An elaborate luncheon was served in a marquee on the lawn, while an orchestra discoursed choice music. After luncheon we strolled about the beautiful grounds and the more active indulged in tennis, bowling, etc., being assisted in their efforts by the kind suggestions of some of the party who felt that they were best fitted by nature to lie in the shade and criticise.

Five o'clock tea having been served we took reluctant leave of our hosts and returned to London by way of Windsor.

On the evening of July 26th, Mr. C. J. Phillips gave a dinner at the Hotel Cecil, to sixteen of the philatelic fraternity. The menu was of the choicest and the decorations and music were in keeping. After dinner some of the guests gave an exhibition of billiard playing which was quite startling and out of the run of ordinary playing.

The next evening the annual dinner of the London Philatelic Society was given at the Café Monico. Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President of the Society, occupied the chair and about eighty members and guests sat around the board. The toasts and responses were received with much applause and the entertainment passed off very successfully.

On the 28th, Mr. M. P. Castle entertained the judges and a few other friends at dinner at the Sports Club. The material feast was followed by one for the eyes, Mr. F. Breitfuss having kindly brought his collection of Swiss stamps and Mr. Castle a few trifles from Russia, Finland, etc.

On the 29th a concert and conversazione took place at St. Martin's Town Hall. An excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered and stereopticon pictures of rare stamps and their counterfeits were shown on a screen and their differences explained by members of the Society.

There were numerous other entertainments and dinners of a private and semi-private nature during the time of the exhibition, one of the most pleasing of which was an afternoon and evening spent by a large party as guests of Mr. C. J. Phillips at his charming home at Twickenham and on the Thames near there.

The exhibition was an embarrassment of riches and it is difficult to determine what shall have mention and where to stop when once mention is begun. It will be impossible, within the limits of a magazine article, to do more than notice some special features of the more prominent displays. Many meritorious exhibits must be passed by. Doubtless fuller details will be published in the journal of the Phllatelic Society and a careful perusal of the catalogue will repay both generalists and specialists. At the same time it must be said that no description can do justice to the superb accumulation of philatelic rarities displayed on this occasion. It is impossible to convey in words a satisfactory idea of the beauties of arrangement, the exquisite shades and the luxurious massing of numbers there shown. The possibilities of specialism and the great difference between the modern style of advanced collecting and the old generalism were emphasised in a manner almost overpowering.

It was not a display to be viewed in a few hours but to be studied slowly and seriously for days. The philatelist who examined the exhibits with

the aid of their owners—as was frequently my good fortune—was to be envied, for in countries so viewed he received an education. It is indeed a treat to hear an enthusiast in the advanced school of collecting describe the beauties of his favorite country or group. Then no minor variety, no nuance of color and no richness of accumulation is allowed to escape your attention, and you turn from the display with mingled feelings of delight at its perfection envy at its success, determination to do something equally meritorious and wonder where you shall begin.

The arduous task of judging the exhibits was admirably performed by the distinguished philatelists to whom it was intrusted.

The decisions seem to have given general satisfaction and to have been accepted without dissent by the exhibitors and visitors.

In their work two points are deserving of notice. They favored collections showing evidence of philatelic knowledge and study when contrasted with those representing merely a large expenditure of money. And they desired, so far as consistent with just decisions, that the prizes should fall to foreign exhibitors rather than English, to show their appreciation of the efforts of Continental and American collectors to aid the international character of the exhibition. I very much regret the apathy of American collectors, and that the collections in this country were so scantily represented.

Many of the finest exhibits were not entered for competition, notably those of H. R. H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, H. R H. the Duke of York, Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. W. B. Avery and Major E. B. Evans.

In describing the exhibition those not entered for competition will be marked *.

Class I., Division I. Adhesive postage stamps of Great Britain, unused. The exhibit, *par excellence*, of this class and of the exhibition, was that of Mr. H. J. White, winning the special gold medal—the grand prize of the exhibition—the gold medal for the division and the gold medal given by Mr. W. H. Peckitt. This was a truly marvelous display and one which surprised even English collectors. It did not seem possible, even to those best informed, that such a surpassing exhibit could be gathered together or even that the material existed.

The collection was especially strong in blocks with marginal imprints and in entire panes.

The stamps were arranged according to their numerical values. There were of the ½d rose red a pair of plate 9; 1d black V. R a block of four with imprint (there were *only* about forty copies of this rarity in the exhibition); 1d black, six blocks with plate numbers, one of them containing 36 stamps; 1½d plate 1 in both lilac rose and rose red with errors in the corner letters; 2d, without lines a strip of three and two pairs; the same, small crown, perf. 16, a block of six, and perf. 14 a block of ten; large crown, perf. 16, two copies of plate 5 and one of plate 6. Of the octagonal stamps there were, 6d a block of six, 10d two blocks of four, 1sh a block of eight, besides pairs of each value and many single copies in choice shades; 3d. small letters, blocks of four and nine; the same with large letters, pairs and blocks of all plates, except 7 and 8, and complete panes of plates 4, 5, 6, 11, 18, 19 and 20; 4d small garter, a pair (the only one known) and two single copies; medium garter, three copies on blue paper and two strips of three on white paper; large garter, blocks of four and eight; 6d, pairs, blocks or panes of all plates; 9d, a perfect copy of plate 5 (hair lines); 10d, a copy of plate 2 (probably unique in unused condition); 1sh, pairs and blocks of all plates and eight panes with various watermarks; 2sh blue, very fine shades and a pane of the

same stamp in brown ; 5sh, watermarked Maltese Cross, plate 1, pair and three singles ; plate 2, three copies ; plate 4 (anchor), single and block of four on blued paper and two copies on white paper ; 10sh, Maltese Cross, pair and two singles ; anchor, copies on blued and white papers ; 10sh ultramarine, seven copies, cobalt five copies ; £1, Maltese Cross, three ; anchor, one each on blued and white papers ; £5, a copy on blued paper without "Specimen."

The "I R. Official," "O. W. Official" and "Govt. Parcels" were complete.

There were numerous essays, trial colors, die proofs in black and a complete set of imperforate specimens of all values and all plates from the *imprimatur* sheets.

Displays in this class by Mr. W. T. Willett (silver medal) and Mr. E. H. Selby (bronze medal) contained many rare and interesting things which would fully merit description were it not to repeat so much already described in Mr. White's collection.

Class II., Division I., British Empire, British Guiana. Mr. W. B. Avery* showed the issues of 1850 to 1862 inclusive. Of the 1850 issue there were 13 specimens, including a 2c and a 4c on pelure paper ; 1852 issue unused and used ; 1856 eight copies of the 4c, including two on blue surface paper ; 1853, an unused copy of the 4c with corner blocks framed ; 1862 issue both single copies and complete sheets.

Mr. H. J. Duveen's exhibit of the same country was awarded the silver medal for this section. Issue 1850–51 contained a pair of 2c rose, the 4c on pelure paper and the 4 and 8c used together, all on original covers, and four copies of the 12c including one on "sugar" paper ; 1852, 1c magenta and 4c blue unused, a pair of the 1c used and four copies of the 4c ; 1856 three copies of the 4c magenta and two of the 4c blue ; 1862 provisional issue, fine unused and used copies ; the later issues were complete unused.

New South Wales. The exhibit of Mr. W. W. Blest (gold medal) was remarkable for the unused specimens. Of the Sydney Views there were shown, 1d, plate 1 (seven) and plate 2 (six) ; 2d, plate 1 (three), plate 2 (nine), plate 3 (one), plate 4 (four) and plate 5 (three) ; 3d (four). The unused Laureated included, 1d, two copies on laid paper ; 2d, three copies with stars in the corners; 6d, two copies each of the plates 1 and 2 ; 8d, one ; and a copy of the 3d watermarked 2. 1855 issue, three copies of the 5d, also the 6d and 1sh watermarked 8. There were many very fine copies and pairs of all the early issues used. The registration stamps included a fine unused block of ten imperforate.

New South Wales was also shown by Mr. W. B. Avery.* Of the Sydney Views unused there were : 1d, plate 1 (three) ; plate 2 (five) ; 2d, plate 2 (two) There were of reconstructed plates four of the 1d, nine of the 2d and two of the 3d. Among the unused Laureated were a strip of ten of the 2d, plate 1, a block of six of the 3d and a block of ten of the 6d, coarse background Among the reconstructed plates of this was one of the 2d, watermarked, unused except one copy, and containing a block of thirty, also a plate of the 2d with stars in the corners and one of the 8d. In the 1853 issue were three pairs of of the 8d and an unused block of four of the 1sh. watermarked 8. In the 1856 was a pair of the 3d watermarked 2.

The display of Mauritius by Mr. W. B. Avery* naturally attracted much attention because it contained unused copies of the very rare 1d and 2d "Post Office."

In addition there were a number of the 1d and 2d "Post Paid" unused and numerous used copies, including a reconstructed plate of the 2d. Of the

"large fillet" eleven specimens were shown, one being unused. Succeeding issues were well represented, and included three unused copies of the surcharged 4d and one of the 1sh green perforated.

Mr Avery's* exhibit of Victoria was remarkable for the fine shades and the number of unused copies, especially in the early issues. Of the 6d beaded oval there were one unused and six used copies.

One of the finest of the exhibits was that of Baron A. de Worms' unrivalled collection of Ceylon. To this was awarded the gold medal for its section and the special gold medal given by the City of London Philatelic Club. Among the unused stamps were: First issue, 1d, block of twelve; 5d, 10d and 1sh 9d, a pair of each; two each of the 4d, 8d and 9d; and several 6d, 1sh and 2sh. Of the perforated stamps with star watermark there were pairs of the 4d, 6d and 8d, two copies of the 9d lilac brown and a block of four of the 1sh. The issue without watermark included pairs of the 1d, 5d, 6d and 1sh. In the issue watermarked CC were three copies of the 2d in the color of the star issue (four used copies were also shown). Of the CA watermark there were two specimens of the 16c lilac and one of the 24c brown violet. In addition there were numerous unused copies of the stamps of all issues in very fine shades. The display of used stamps was equally extensive, and included many blocks, pairs and strips, notably pairs of the 4d, 1sh 9d and 2sh of the first issue.

In the group of New Brunswick, New Foundland and Nova Scotia Mr. W. B. Avery* showed of the first country two unused and seven used specimens of the 1sh, a number of bisected stamps and three copies of the "Connell." In New Foundland were shown of the scarlet-vermilion series unused two 2d, three 4d, two 6d, seven 6½d and one 1sh. The issue in orange was liberally displayed and many cancelled copies of both issues.

In Nova Scotia the fine assortment of the pence issue included five unused and five used copies of the 1sh.

The same countries were exhibited by Mr. H. J. Duveen. In New Brunswick 1851 issue were seven 6d unused, four fine shades of the 1sh unused and five used, a "Connell" and several bisected stamps In New Foundland the scarlet-vermilion series was complete unused, and the 2d and 4d were in duplicate. Of the orange-vermilion series there were two each of the 2d, 4d and 6d and specimens of the 6½ and 1sh and the 1sh on laid paper, all unused. In Nova Scotia were shown five unused and seven used copies of the 1sh.

It may be interesting to know that in all sixty-three specimens of the 1sh of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were shown.

Mr. W. W. Blest's display of New Zealand was awarded the silver medal for the section. Of the first issue, London print, there were three copies each of the 1d, 2d and 1sh unused and six of the 1d used. Of the *bleuté* paper unused there were a 2d and two 1sh. On blue paper there were five 1d, a pair and strips of three and four 2d and two 1sh, all unused, and of used copies a strip of five 1d and a copy with value omitted of the 2d. The issue on thick white unwatermarked paper was represented by several unused copies of the 6d and 1sh. and one of the 2d with serrate perforation. On pelure paper a number of unused copies of the 1d, 2d and 1sh imperforate and the 2d, 6d and 1sh perforated. Of the the issue with N. Z. watermark there were two copies of the 1d brown. The rouletted and serrate perforation, both on pelure and star papers were well represented

Queensland was also shown by Mr. W. W. Blest and was awarded the special silver medal presented by Mr. W. Hadlow. The first issue imperforate included four copies of the 1d, a single and strip of three of the 2d and

four of the 6d, all unused, and also two pairs each of the 2d and 6d used. The issue watermarked with truncated star contained an unused strip of three of the 6d dark green.

Mr. Gordon Smith's display of South Australia won the silver medal for its section. Among the unused stamps were: first issue, London print, 1d (two and a pair), 6d (a pair and block of four), 1sh (one); Colonial print, 2d (two), 6d (a pair) and 1sh (two pairs). The rouletted issue included blocks of the 1d, 2d and 6d, a strip of three of the 4d, the 10d with blue surcharge, the six types both on yellow and orange, and two copies each of the 6d Prussian blue and 1sh yellow. In the series perforated by rouletted were shown 4d (single and used pair), 6d (three pairs and five singles), 10d (three) and 1sh (four). A very complete showing was made of all subsequent issues.

Mr. W. Harrison exhibited the South Australian stamps surcharged for Departmental use. The collection was very complete and included numerous rarities. The special silver medal given by Mr. Gordon Smith was awarded to this exhibit.

Western Australia was shown by Mr. W. B. Avery.* In the first issue unused were eight 2d, three 6d and a block of fifty 1sh. There were also used pairs of all values and a specimen of the 4d with center inverted. A large number of the rouletted stamps of the first and second issues were shown. There were seven unused copies of the 6d on *bleuté* paper and eleven of the 2d lilac error.

Cape of Good Hope was also shown by Mr. W. B. Avery.* Of the first issues there were very fine unused blocks of the 1d, 4d and 6d and a pair of the 1sh dark green. The wood blocks were shown singly and in pairs and blocks. Among the unused was a copy of the 4d dark blue. The 1d blue, error, was shown singly and *se tenant* with a 4d, and there were two copies of the 4d red, error.

To the collection of Nevis exhibited by Baron A. de Reuterskiöld was awarded the silver medal of the section and the special silver medal presented by the City of London Philatelic Club. The following reconstructed plates were shown: First issue on gray paper, 1d, 4d, 6d and 1sh, both unused and used; second issue engraved, 1d, 4d and 1sh blue green unused and used, the 1sh yellow green used and ten types unused; lithographed issue, the 1d, 4d, 6d and 1sh unused, the 1d and 4d used, nine types of the 6d, ten of the 1sh light green and seven of the 1sh dark green used; the 1d, perf. 11½, complete unused and used.

The same country as shown by Mr. W. T. Willett was also awarded a silver medal. There were shown reconstructed plates of all values on gray paper unused. Entire sheets of the 4d and 1sh blue green of the second issue and eight types of the 1sh yellow green unused and a used specimen of the 1sh on laid paper. Among the lithographed stamps were entire sheets of the 1d, 4d and 1sh, both light and dark green, and a reconstructed sheet of the 6d, all unused.

Mr. Vernon Roberts' superb exhibit of St. Lucia (bronze medal) included many very fine copies of all issues, blocks of the first issue unused, twelve copies of the 1883 1sh and six of the 4d, perf. 12.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton showed a very complete collection of Straits Settlements, including nearly all the minor varieties, settings and errors. Also many large blocks and complete panes. The special silver medal presented by Messrs. Brown and Skipton was awarded.

A silver medal was given to Baron A. Reuterskiöld for Turks Islands. Among the gems were an unused copy of the 1sh prune, copies of the 2½ on

6d gray with small fraction, three varieties of the 2½ with square based "2" on the same stamp, ten varieties of the 2½ on 1sh blue, fifteen of the 2½ on 1sh prune and a block of thirteen of the 2½ on 1d red. There were many blocks of the ½d and 4d surcharges and twenty varieties of the ½d on 4d gray, 1893.

Division II., Europe.

The gold medal for section A., and the special gold medal presented by Mr. M. P. Castle were awarded to Mr. R. Ehrenbach's exhibit of Austria, Austrian Italy, Hungary and Bosnia. It will be sufficient to say that every possible shade, perforation and variety of paper was presented and included five copies of the 2kr orange, 1868, of Austria.

Mr. Adolf Rosenberg showed a most elaborate collection of Heligoland, unused, used and on covers. Also all known cancellations, blocks of four of the first issue unused and the 5 marks perf. 11 to 11½. To this exhibit were awarded the silver medal of the section and the special silver medal given by Mr. R. Ehrenbach.

Mr. M. P. Castle* displayed very fine and complete collections of Thurn and Taxis, Hanover, Oldenburg and Wurtemberg. In Hanover were shown four copies of the 1sg blue, 1851 and three of the one-tenth, 1856. Very beautiful copies and blocks of the first issue Thurn and Taxis. In Wurtemberg were shown of the first issue 3kr orange (two), 6kr. (seven), 9kr. (three) The issue without silk threads included copies of the 6kr. in pale green and yellow green. The 1859 issue perf. 13½ was represented by twenty-two copies. All the stamps mentioned were unused. Mr. W B. Avery* showed of the first issue of Roumania 81p (two) and 108p (three), unused; 27p (three and a pair), 54p (six) 81p (two) and 108p (five), used.

Of Switzerland there were four remarkable displays. Mr. M. P. Castle* showed only Cantonal issues unused In Zurich with vertical lines two of the 4r and four of the 6r. With horizontal lines, four of the 4r and twenty-two of the 6r, the latter including two strips of the five types unsevered, one of which showed the retouched variety. Winterthur five copies of the 2½r; Double Geneva, 10c, four pairs, one wrongly divided; 5c Geneva, fine blocks of all varieties; Vaud 4c (two), 5c (fourteen); Neuchatel 5c (six); Basle seven.

Mr. W. B. Avery* showed an unused block with marginal inscription of the double Geneva, containing six pairs and three halves, also nine used pairs; a block of twenty of the 5c large eagle of 1847 with full marginal inscription; a pair on cover of the 4c Vaud; a number of reconstructed sheets of the Federal issue, including one of the 2½r Orts Post without frame to the cross.

Greece, as exhibited by Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, was a wonderful accumulation of sheets, blocks, shades and varieties. It gave evidence of careful study and a thorough understanding of the subject, and was awarded the gold medal of the section and a special silver medal presented by Mr. M. P. Castle.

Another collection replete with blocks and shades was Mr. Hubert Buckley's Norway, and was deservedly rewarded with a silver medal.

Mr. R. Ehrenbach's collection of Sweden was made on his usual lines, plenty of everything. This, too, had its reward in silver.

Division III.—Asia and Africa.

Capt. F. H. Hancock exhibited a very interesting collection of Afghanistan, including sheets of the four plates of 1288, nine specimens of the 1289 issue, a nearly complete plate of the 1293 "tablet" issue and a large number

of single copies of all issues. The silver medal for the section was awarded this exhibition.

Mr. T. Wickham Jones carried off the gold medal for the section with his Japan.

Of the first issue were shown an entire sheet of the 500 mons on wove paper and nine sheets of various values on laid paper, and a block of twenty-five of the 500 mons in the pale yellow green shade. Of the 6 sen of Jan. 1874 there were fifty-eight specimens on laid paper, including a number unused. The various plate numbers were shown almost complete used and many copies unused.

To the same gentleman were awarded in Section B. the silver medal and a special gold medal presented by Mr. David Benjamin for his collection of Shanghai. This is one of the few great collections of that country, and contains nearly everything unused and used. A large number of the stamps of the first issue were shown, including nine specimens of the 4 cands with error "mace" and five of the 8 cands with the same error.

To Mr. R. Pearce's fine display of Transvaal stamps was awarded a silver medal and a special gold medal given by Mr. W. S. Lincoln. The display was extensive, covering a wide range of shades and varieties in all issues. The various local printings of the first type, large and small roulettes, tête-bêche stamps and varieties of paper were fully represented. The same may be said of the stamps issued during the British occupancy, with the addition of all varieties and errors of surcharge and several of the rare stamps on colored paper with the surcharge omitted. The later issues were equally complete.

An illustration of what may be done with a comparatively small and unconsidered country was given by the exhibit of Egypt by Henri Cantel, Bey, (silver medal). The quality and quantity of this collection were quite surprising. In the 1866 issue were unused and used copies of the 5 piastres rose with the surcharge of the 10pi. and the 2pi bisected. In the 1872 issue were tête bêche stamps and inverted surcharges Nearly all stamps were shown in imperforate condition. All four values of the Suez Canal stamps were also shown unused and used.

In Division IV, America, was found one of the finest displays of the exhibition. This was Mr. H. J. Duveen's superb collection of United States stamps, which well deserved the gold medal awarded it.

Included in this exhibit were: Baltimore, 5c on blue and white paper, Brattleboro on original cover, Millbury, and two reconstructed sheets of St. Louis stamps, one containing two copies of the 20c. The regular issues were shown unused only unless otherwise noted. The 1847 issue included three blocks of four of the 5c and a strip of four 10c. The 1851 issue were in blocks of four up to the 12c and a single copy of the 24c. The 1857 issue were also shown in blocks, including the 5c red brown and 24c red lilac. The premieres gravures of the 1861 issue were complete except the 1c and 90c and the second type of this issue complete in blocks of four, except the 12c and including the 3c pink and 5c yellow. The 1868 grills were well represented, many values being in blocks. The 1869 set were in blocks of six, except the 15c with diamond, which was a block of four. Used copies of the three values with inverted centres and an unused set (except the 6c) of originals without grill were among the gems.

Many of the 1870 grilled issue were in blocks.

The reprints and reissues were shown complete to and including the 1869 set. The reissues of the 1873 set by the Continental Bank Note Co., was represented by four values. By some mistake only the same four values

were shown of this set as reissued by the American Bank Note Co., though Mr. Duveen is the happy possessor of one of the four complete sets known.

Mr. F. R. Ginn had also a fine exhibit of United States stamps. While not as many blocks were shown as by Mr. Duveen, the collection was replete in shades and fine copies. All the reprints and reissues up to 1870 and four of the 1870 set, the department stamps complete, the 15c and 24c of 1869 with inverted centres (used copies) and the 1c, 3c, 1cc, 24c and 30c premieres gravures. This exhibit received the silver medal.

The Confederate States were shown by Mr. W. B. Avery* and included Athens 5c (five and a pair), Baton Rouge 2c green, Columbia 5c (three), Charleston 5c (two), Canton (two), Danville (three), Fredericksburg 5c (three), 10c (one), Goliad 10c, Knoxville 5c black, 5c red (blocks), Lynchburg 5c blue (three), 10c black, 5c black, Lenoir 5c (two), Livingston 5c, Marion 2c, Madison 3c, Montgomery 5c, Macon 5c green, 5c yellow (three), Memphis 5c (two), 2c (block of forty-six), Mobile 2c, 5c, New Orleans, Nashville, Petersburg, Ringgold, Rheatown, Pleasant Shade (pair), Tellico Plains (two pairs), Raleigh and Salem.

Mr. R. Ehrenbach exhibited a wonderful accumulation of Buenos Ayres, containing 125 unused and 160 used copies of the "ship' issues.

Mr. W. T. Hall showed very complete collections of Colombian Republic and Peru. And similar exhibits were made by Mr. H. R. Oldfield in Bolivia, Mr. A. Bruck in Brazil and Mr. R. Ehrenbach in Uruguay.

Of the fifteen collections of rare stamps space only permits mention of that of Mr. W. Thorne, winner of the gold medal. A few of the rarities were Vancouver Island 5c rose, imperforate; British Guiana, 1850, 4c yellow on pelure, 1856, 4c blue surfaced paper, 4c indigo paper colored through; Canada 12d (single and pair); Reunion, first issue, 15c and 30c; Dominica 1d on 6d green; Ceylon 4d and 8d, first issue; Great Britain £1 watermarked Anchor; Hawaii 13c; Tuscany 3 lire; United States, a Battleboro, the 15c and 30c 1869 with inverted centre and a block of four of the 24c ditto; Virgin Islands 1sh with figure omitted; and many other choice specimens.

The account of this great exhibition which is contained in the article by Mr. Luff, in this number of the JOURNAL, will make it unnecessary for us to enter into any further description or details in relation to this important philatelic event. However, we think it desirable to add a tabulated list of the prize winners in each division. It will be seen that American collectors and dealers have borne off a fair share of the awards:

CLASS I., GREAT BRITAIN.

Adhesive Postage Stamps, Unused.

The Grand Prize (Special Gold Medal),	H. J. White
Gold Medal,	H. J. White.
Silver "	W. T. Willett.
Bronze "	E. H. Selby.

Adhesive Postage Stamps, Used.

Silver Medal,	F. West.

Telegraph Stamps

Silver Medal,	Gordon Smith
Bronze "	W. Matthews.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Unused Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain. Presented by W. H. Peckitt, Esq.

Gold Medal, H. J. White.
Silver " E. H. Selby.

For the best Exhibit by an amateur not a member of the Philatelic Society, London. Presented by the Society.

Gold Medal, W. T. Willett.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Section A.

Gold Medal, W. W. Blest, (N. S. Wales.)
Silver " H. J. Duveen, (Br. Guiana.)
Bronze " Dr. W. C. Bowers, (N. S. Wales.)

Section B.

Gold Medal, Baron A. De Worms, (Ceylon.)
Silver " W. W. Blest, (New Zealand.)
Silver " Gordon Smith, (South Australia.)
Silver " F. Ransom, (Trinidad.)
Bronze " W. Hadlow, (Queensland.)

Section C.

Silver Medal, W. T. Willett, (Nevis.)
Silver " Baron A. De Reuterskiöld, (Turks Is.)
Bronze " Leslie L. R. Hausburg, (Grenada.)
Bronze. " Dr. R. Stanley Taylor, (Grenada.)
Bronze ' Vernon Roberts, (St. Lucia)

Section D.

Silver Medal, Baron A. De Worms, (Gambia, Gold Coast, etc.)
Bronze " J. W. Marsden, (Gilbraltar, Gold Coast, etc.)
Bronze " Eliot Levy, (British South Africa, etc.)

Special Awards

For Collections of used British Colonial stamps. Presented by the City of London Philatelic Club.

Gold Medal, Baron A. De Worms.
Silver " Baron A. De Reuterskiöld.
Bronze " W. W. Blest.

For Collections of "Sydney Views," New South Wales.
Presented by Messrs. G. Callf & Co.

Silver Medal, Dr. W. C. Bowers.

For the most complete collection of Queensland.
Presented by W. Hadlow, Esq.

Silver Medal, W. W. Blest.

For Departmental stamps of South Australia.
Presented by Gordon Smith, Esq.

Silver Medal, W. Harrison.

For Collection of Straits Settlements (including Native States.) Presented by W. Brown, Esq., and S. C. Skipton, Esq.

Silver Medal, W. Dorning Beckton.

EUROPE.

Section A.

Gold Medal, R. Ehrenbach, (Austria.)
Silver " Adolf Rosenberg, (Heligoland.)
Silver " Geo. F. Jackson, (Spain.)
Silver " R. Dreyfus, (Switzerland.)
Bronze " Julius Lossau, (Hamburg.)
Bronze " Ernest Petri, (Parma, Tuscany, etc.)
Bronze " Dr. Yersin, (Switzerland.)

Section B.

Gold Medal,	W. Dorning Beckton, (Greece.)
Silver "	Hubert Buckley, (Norway, etc.)
Silver "	R. Ehrenbach, (Sweden.)
Bronze "	A. H. Harrison, (Norway.)
Bronze "	J. N. Marsden, (Portugal.)

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Exhibits of European stamps. Presented by M. P. Castle, Esq.

Gold Medal,	R. Ehrenbach.
Silver "	W. Dorning Beckton.

For Exhibits by Continental Collectors. Presented by R. Ehrenbach, Esq.

Silver Medal,	Adolf Rosenberg.
Bronze "	R. Dreyfus.

ASIA AND AFRICA.

Section A.

Gold Medal,	T. Wickham Jones, (Japan)
Silver "	Capt. F. H. Hancock, (Afghanistan)
Silver "	R. Pearce, (Transvaal.)
Bronze "	Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, (Philippine Is)
Bronze "	Major R. Day, (Afghanistan.)

Section B.

Silver Medal,	H. Cantel (Bey), (Egypt.)
Silver "	T. Wickham Jones, (Shanghai.)
Bronze "	J. Hamish Wilson, (Egypt.)
Bronze "	C. P. L. Van Kinschot, (Dutch Indies and Orange Free State.)

Special Awards.

For Collection of Transvaal. Presented by W. S. Lincoln, Esq.

Gold Medal,	R. Pearce.

For Collection of Shanghai. Presented by David Benjamin, Esq.

Gold Medal,	T. Wickham Jones.

AMERICA.

Section A.

Gold Medal,	H. J. Duveen, (United States.)
Silver "	F. R. Ginn, (United States.)
Silver "	T. W. Hall, (Colombia.)
Bronze "	Dr. G. Michelsen, (Colombia.)

Section B.

Gold Medal,	H. R. Oldfield (Bolivia.)
Silver "	Alph. Bruck (Brazil.)
Bronze "	T. W. Hall (Peru.)

Section C.

Silver Medal,	R. Meyer (Chili.)
Bronze "	E. S. Davidson (Cuba and Porto Rico.)

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Collection of Colombia and States. Presented by M. Giwelb, Esq.

Gold Medal,	T. W. Hall.

For Collection of Mexico. Presented by W. T. Wilson, Esq.

Gold Medal,	R. Frentzel.

For Collection of Peru. Presented by Buhl & Co., Ltd.

Gold Medal,	T. W. Hall.

Collection of Rare Stamps.

Gold Medal,	W. Thorne.
Gold "	Harvey R. G. Clarke.
Silver "	M. Giwelb.
Silver "	A. S. Tomson.
Bronze "	H. R. Oldfield.

Collections (without limit as to number)

Gold Medal,	W. D. Beckton.
Silver "	Mrs. Hetley.
Bronze "	W. Cowland.
Bronze "	A. H. Dingwall.
Bronze "	H. L. Hayman.

Collections (not exceeding 4,000 in number).

Silver Medal,	Eliot Levy,
Silver "	S. M. Castle,
Silver "	F. Bang,
Bronze "	Mrs. Potts.

Collections (not exceeding 2,000 in number).

Silver Medal,	L. H. Walter,
Bronze "	G. J. Hynes,
Bronze "	G. B Duerst,
Bronze "	B. P. Rodd.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Collections exhibited by Ladies. Presented by H. R. H. Duke of York.

Gold Medal,	Mrs. Hetley.
Silver "	Mrs. Baynes.

For collections not exceeding 2000 varieties exhibited in albums of English Manufacture by collectors under sixteen years of age. Presented by Mess. Butler Bros.

Bronze Medal,	C. Steele-Perkins.

For Collections in albums of British manufacture. Presented by Stanley Gibbons, L'd.

(*a*) Containing over 8,000 varieties.

Gold Medal,	H. L. Hayman,
Silver "	Mrs. H. L. Hayman.

(*b*) Containing less than 8,000 varieties.

Silver Medal,	Mrs. Davidson of Tulloch,
Gold "	F. Reichenheim.

Entire Envelopes and Wrappers.

Division I.

Silver Medal,	F. Ransom (Germany.)
Silver "	J. R. Heskith (Mulready envelopes and letter-sheets.)

Division II.

Silver Medal,	B. Plashett Rodd (Australian Colonies.)

Post Cards, etc.

Division I.

Silver Medal,	T. Ridpath & Co.
Bronze "	S. C. Skipton and W. Brown.

Division II.

Silver Medal,	B. Plashett Rodd.
Bronze "	R. Meyer.

Exhibits by Stamp Engravers and Manufacturers of Postage Stamps and Telegraph Stamps.

Gold Medal,	Perkins, Bacon & Co., L'd.
Silver "	Thos. de la Rue & Co., Ld.
Silver "	Waterlow & Sons, L'd.
Silver "	Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.. Ld.

For Philatelic Literature and Works

Division I.

Current Philatelic Journals

Silver Medal,	Buhl & Co., L'd.
Silver "	Stanley Gibbons, Ld.
Bronze "	W. Brown.

Division II.

Philatelic Works published since October 3 st, 1890.

Silver Medal,	Dr. Emilio Diena,
Silver "	Hugo Krötzsch,
Bronze "	L. Upcott Gill,
Bronze "	Scott Stamp and Coin Co., L'd,
Bronze "	V. Suppantschitsch.

The Philatelic Society's Medals awarded to Authors of Works in this Class.

Silver Medal,	E. D. Bacon,
Silver "	F. H. Napier.

ALBUMS.

Division I.

Albums for Special Collections.

Bronze Medal,	H. L'Estrange Ewen,
Bronze "	W. Brown.

Division II.

Albums for General Collections.

Bronze Medal,	Scott Stamp and Coin Co., L'd,
Bronze "	R. W. Stevens,
Bronze "	Stanley Gibbons, L'd,
Bronze "	Dr. Emilio Diena,
Bronze "	Whitfield, King & Co.,
Bronze "	C. F. Lucke,
Bronze "	Hugo Krötzsch,
Bronze "	W. S. Lincoln.
Bronze "	W. T. Wilson.

Accessories and Appliances for Use by Collectors.

Bronze Medal,	Stanley Gibbons, Ld.
Bronze "	Hugo Krötzsch.

General objects of Philatelic Interest. Special arrangements of Stamps, etc.

Silver Medal,	J. R. F. Turner.
Silver "	W. Morley.
Bronze "	S. C. Skipton and W. Brown.
Bronze "	H. J. White.
Bronze "	C. F. Deady Marshall.
Bronze "	W. Rutley.
Bronze "	F. C. Smith.

Special Awards.

For Exhibits in any Class by Members of the Manchester Philatelic Society. Presented by W. Dorning Beckton, Esq.

Silver Medal,	G. B. Duerst.
Bronze "	Vernon Roberts.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

By Edward J. Nankivell.

London, 10, August, 1897.

Our great Exhibition has come and gone. It has been a grand success from a philatelic point of view. Of the details of the show I shall say little. Mr. Luff, who has haunted the galleries since the opening, will tell you all about the exhibits. But I may retail the gossip of the show.

Of course the great gossipping center was the dealers room—the jungle, as it was facetiously termed—the dealers being the wild beasts, and the visiting collectors the prey. Whether the prey was as abundant as expected is a matter on which there is a little difference of opinion. Some seem to have done fairly well, others had nothing to complain of, and one or two pursed up their lips and shook their discontented heads and didn't think much of the business to be done at an exhibition. There are different ways of looking at an exhibition, even for a dealer. One assured me that the actual business to be looked for at an exhibition was not worth considering ; he trusted to the after results. The last great exhibition yielded him one customer who alone was worth many times what he had paid for his Stall. In the main, the dealers, one and all, will no doubt agree that the exhibition was in the main from their point of view a huge advertisement, and as the benefits of an advertisement are mostly after results, it is early days to say what ultimate effects it will have upon the trade in postage stamps.

From the collector's point of view it has been a very great success. The best collections have been thrown open to inspection in the most lavish manner. There have been few countries that could be beaten outside of the exhibition. In a few, of course, there was an indifferent display. But it may truthfully be said that the big countries were grandly represented. Some timid ones imagine that this overpowering exhibition of the great specialist collections will quite crush the spirit out of the ordinary collector. I do not think so. There are signs that local Societies will in the future have their local shows, and the ordinary collector who cannot compete for a gold medal in an International Exhibition may take front seat in his local show.

Personally, I was shut out from participation in exhibiting. I paid the penalty of attempting, as a busy journalist, to play at stamp collecting. In the intervals of such moments as I could spare I busied myself in the special arrangement of a selection of the best unused specimens from my Transvaal collection, and completed the arrangement, by dint of the use of some midnight oil, in time to take up the lot to be told that it was too late. Perhaps it was just as well, for the space I should have occupied would have cramped some other stamps that are better understood and appreciated than Transvaals are just yet, for, even confining it mainly to unused, I should have monoplized at least seven cases. In one way it may be a loss, for my collection will certainly never again be arranged for exhibition purposes. Such pleasures must be left for those who have more time to spare than I can boast of.

Of the stories told in the Dealers' room the best was one by Mr. T. H. Thompson, of Leeward Island fame, at his own expense. When he bought

the Leeward Island remainders he says he carefully weeded out all defective surcharges, such as misprints, errors, inverteds or doubles, and returned them to the Government agent, claiming, and receiving, his money back for those defective sheets. In his own opinion he was exercising a wise discretion. He was not so wise in those days as he is now. He had not learned the wicked ways of this wicked world. Some time after he was telling a well known brother dealer what a lot of sheets he had found in the lot that were defective. The brother dealer scented good things and inquired for those sheets. To his astonishment he learned that Mr. Thompson had contemptuously returned them to the Government agent. Of course he received an eye-opener as to their value, and as a consequence he went forthwith and inquired what had become of the sheets. He expected they would have been destroyed, but the equally innocent Government agents had not so far troubled themselves about them ; they were still to be had if wanted. Mr. Thompson at once secured them, and made a very profitable haul.

Mr. Morley, our English specialist dealer, told me that he had sold more fiscals than postage stamps at his stall. He is a great enthusiast in fiscals, and has lately issued a neat little pamphlet strongly advocating the collection of fiscals.

All the dealers had splendid stocks of stamps on show. Mr. Phillips had over £25,000 worth of the Ayer collection at his stall for inspection, besides a specially mounted collection of every country. Mr. Wm. Brown had some fine lots of the East Africa Protectorates, notably many of the scarcest Zanzibar and British East Africa. Indeed, he seems to be the only dealer who has been able to get any stock of these issues. And yet some people are never tired of asserting that they are made for sale. As a matter of fact, there are few stamps that are more difficult to get to-day than those same Zanzibar and British East Africa. Mr. Callf had a splendid lot of Sydney views, of which he makes a specialty ; but for rarities in abundance I must mention the show at the stall of our old friend Mr. W. T. Wilson. It was enough to make any philatelist's mouth water.

There has been a good deal of criticism of the unfavorable sort over the bronze medals doled out wholesale to exhibitors of albums. It is contended that the Judges should have shown their preference for some one of the many albums shown, instead of giving bronze medals to all and sundry. But if the Judges had given one album a gold medal and left the others in the lurch there might have been——more profanity than there is. Generally speaking, we are all sixes and sevens about our likes and our dislikes in the matter of albums. It would be a very difficult matter to find two philatelists who think alike as to the best form of album. All one can say is that there is a tendency to reject the ponderous size in favor of something more portable. We are all in favor of movable leaves and little else. Possibly some of the most fastidious share the partiality of the writer for hand made paper.

The attendance at the Exhibition was not so good as it might have been, but, in the opinion of many, the holding of the exhibition in the summer has a great deal to contend with in the matter of drawbacks. In the first place, stamp collectors will not as a body give up summer games and pleasures for such a severely indoor business as stamp collecting. In the next place, lots of folks are away holidaying in July and August far more

than would be counterbalanced by the summer visitors from abroad. In other ways there is a pretty strong opinion that a winter exhibition of stamps would be much more of a success from the attendance point of view than a summer arrangement. But the most serious reason of all is that there would be infinitely less risk from exposure to a winter sun than to the blazing rays of the summer. It is no secret that, despite the great advantages afforded by the galleries of the Institute of Painters' in Water Colors in Piccadilly, in roof light, etc., some of the delicate lilac stamps suffered severely.

Dealers are in a quandary as to the value of the Transvaal 1s two shafts. It has, almost from the first, been reported to be scarce; why, I am unable to say, or even to understand. But it is unquestionably regarded as a rare stamp, and so far as the *apparent* market supply is concerned it is rare. One dealer has priced it at £8 in his book, another, I am told, got £10 for a copy, but the generally accepted market value is I believe, somewhere about £2. It is possible the engraving of two shafts instead of one was rectified while the supply of the shilling value was in process of execution, or the order to print no more two shafts might have been received in time to stop some of the printing of the 1s supply. Without some such explanation I cannot conceive its being a rare stamp, for it is a value of which a considerable number is used every year Last year the sales of shilling stamps amounted to 1,032,292. Now, if a supply was printed off with the two shafts it cannot be a rare stamp. Therefore, we must wait for information as to the number actually printed. Meanwhile, anyone who can pick up a stray unused shilling or two at double face may probably do well to stick to them until they settle down to a fixed catalogue value. At present the stamp is certainly a sporting item. One turned up at auction a week or two since and fetched only 9s. Dealers are cautious about buying it, but they are venturesome enough in pricing any copies they may get. Of course all sorts of rumors are about. One dealer told me that he heard there had been a corner, and that there were sheets in the hands of one speculator. After the exposure in the *Monthly Journal* of one postmaster's little business operations, nothing would surprise us. But I fancy the Transvaal Postmaster General has cleared out that little nest.

We are getting very superfine in our catalogue arrangements. Dealers who make a specialty of English stamps now find it necessary to provide four columns of prices instead of the ordinary two columns for used and unused. We are in future to have four columns—1 unused with gum; 2 unused no gum; 3 fine used copies; 4 fair used copies. After all, one cannot complain very much, for almost every dealers' stock book now-a-days makes a wide distinction between a fine copy and a heavily postmarked copy, and rightly so. But there are a few old-fashioned dealers who still take no account of condition. I was going through a stock book of rarities some days since, and in a whole page, in which there were scarcely two stamps of like condition, the copies varying from torn, battered and heavily postmarked copies, to very fine copies, the price was put, at the top of the page, "20s each." That dealer is one of the good old sort. I wish they were more plentiful. His stock has been the happy hunting ground for the knowing ones from the days of Tapling till now. May his sun of apathy never sit. From the collector's point of view dealers are getting a great deal too sharp and knowing, and up-to-date.

Mr. Walter Morley has brought out a new and improved edition of his

English Catalogue. It follows the fashion of the day, largely set I believe by yourself, of being in small pocket size. It is an excellent work for those who make a speciality of English Stamps.

There is a duel going on between Mr. Castle and some Berlin writers. The Berlin writers are howling about what they term the undue and absurd inflation of the prices of rare stamps. Mr. Castle contends that there is no inflation of the prices of rare stamps and challenges his German friends to produce and sell the stamps at lower prices. The whole thing is absurd. It is ridiculous to think that dealers can, for any length of time, unduly inflate prices. If there were no competition, and if leading firms could make a ring, then all would be clear for inflation, but when there are so many dealers competing with each other and auctions into the bargain, undue inflation would simply mean loss of business to the inflating firms. As a matter of fact the cure against undue inflation is always at work. Certain dealers get an unenviable reputation for being very high priced, and as a consequence collectors search everywhere for what they want before they resort to the high priced parties. It is the same in every business ; certain firms are always ten to twenty per cent above fellow traders, and the fools who pay their higher percentage have only themselves to blame.

One of the countries that is developing an interest of its own is Niger Coast Protectorate. It is only recently that it has been found to be most interestingly full of a variety of perforations and papers. The perfs. vary from 12 to 15, and the papers from thick to thin, and from gray to white. Those who are wise will do well to fill up their issues of Niger Coast without delay while they are comparatively cheap, especially the first issue of Niger Coast. Speaking generally, in the matter of perfs. anything perf. under 14 is worth picking up. 12 and 12½ are scarce. Personally I consider it is early days to call them rare. If the 12 and 12½ perfs. were only to be found in a few of the first issues only, then they might call them rare, but they are not confined to the first issue for they are to be found in the current series.

Stay, I should have written, in the series just obsolete, for I have just learned that the series of hitherto unwatermarked stamps have been displaced by a series now watermarked "Crown C.A." Therefore, we have now three series of Nigers: 1. The special design engraved for the Oil Rivers, but perceptibly altered on the design to "Niger Coast Protectorate," and, therefore, called by some a provisional, issued in 1893 ; 2. a fresh, but somewhat similar design, with the new name of the colony properly engraved, but the colors altered throughout, issued in the following year ; and 3. the same design but watermarked Crown C.A. as a current series.

While talking about Niger Coast I may draw attention to a curious coincidence. It will be remembered that in the days of the "Oil Rivers Protectorate" there was a terrible epidemic of surcharges. The climate, we were told, was so cussedly damp that it was impossible to keep enough stamps on hand to avoid surcharging. But suddenly there was a change of authorities, and the climate thereupon got frightened, and at once dried up, with the result that there are now no surcharges. Convenient sort of climate that.

The attempt of our Postal authorities to put an end to the pictorial illustration of postage stamps has roused the printing trades of the country, which

at a recent conference of delegates condemned the action of the post office, and decided to bring the matter before the trade generally. Meanwhile I am told that steps are being taken to test the Post Office right of interference by means of a friendly action in the Law Courts. At all events, Mr. Purcell, the popular Controller General of Stamps, in his speech at the dinner of the London Philatelic Society the other day, expressed a belief that a *modus vivendi* would be found.

By the way, at the dinner of the London Philatelic Society the company was photographed by flash light. I saw a copy a few days since, and a more ghastly thing I have never set eyes on. Well known faces are guyed almost beyond recognition, in the most horrible fashion.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE MANUFACTURE OF STAMPS AND OTHER POSTAL VALUES.

By Jules Bouvèz

About the year 1850, when the majority of postal administrations adopted the use of postage stamps to represent the taxes collected on correspondence, they had recourse, for the most part, to thoroughly equipped business houses, having renowned engravers at their disposal. However, in those countries in which the postal service developed considerably in a few years, the authorities soon realized that this state of affairs involved serious inconveniences, and, in some cases, gave rise to innumerable difficulties, especially whenever it was desired to introduce a reduction in the tax, or to adopt new rates. The delays which then occurred in the manufacture of new values compelled the postal authorities to have recourse to the application of surcharges on the existing values, thus creating complete sets of surcharged stamps. This was done even from the very beginning, when the postage stamp first made its appearance, and was continued for a considerable period, ceasing only about the year 1860, when typographical plates were introduced, for the first time, by means of the cold striking system*. Let us add, further, that economy had a great deal to do with the application of surcharges up to this time, as the cost of engravings and reproductions had hitherto been enormous.

To-day, the majority of the postal administrations possess special shops for the manufacture of their stamps, these shops being governed by special regulations, thereby permitting the exercise of an active and direct control, and constituting an adequate guaranty, such as could not possibly be secured where the manufacture was farmed out.

As the shops which produce these little labels which are the delight of stamp lovers, are not accessible to the public, we thought it would be of interst to impart to collectors some information in regard to this manufacture.

The special shops where the postage stamps are manufactured, resemble large printing establisments, very well managed.

Immense store-rooms, in which order and perfect cleanliness prevail, contain the paper which is intended for manufacture. Before this paper is used, it is made to undergo a certain preparation and glazing by means of a mechanical press. This process consists in coating, with a colorless matter (the composition of which is kept secret), the side of the paper which is to receive the impression, thereby rendering counterfeits impossible This

*Note.—We do not understand the writer's meaning.—The Publishers.

coating not only glazes the paper and gives very great delicacy to the impression, but also, on account of the extreme tenacity of the varnish, prevents all possibility of detaching the imprint from the paper by any chemical process whatsoever, and this is an additional safeguard against counterfeits.

The paper being thus prepared, the sheets are very carefully counted and stored away, to be delivered to the shop according as they are required.

Before they are handed over to the printer, the sheets are entrusted to numberers, whose duty it is to print on the border and on the upper right hand corner, the kind of stamp to be manufactured, the value, and the

TIMBRES "BRUXELLES" à 5C^MES N° 049186

numerical order, running from o to the last sheet to be printed. When this has been done, the paper is replaced in the warehouse, where the sheets are again counted.

The employee charged with the superintendence of the warehouse must review and count all the papers, classify them by ream, by category, by origin and by date of reception. He must make an entry in a journal according as they are received and withdrawn, and he is personally responsible to the chief of the establishment.

Connected with every shop, there is an engraver, especially charged, generally by contract, with the composition and engraving of the dies necessary for the construction of the printing plates. He also directs the construction of these plates, superintends their use and renewal, and rejects such proofs as leave anything to be desired from an artistic point of view.

Whenever a postal administration, in possession of a service for the manufacture of stamps, decides upon a new issue, an order is given to the manager of the shop to prepare dies or engravings for the reproduction of the plates necessary for printing. The process for the reproduction of these plates varies in the different countries, some using dies engraved on wood, others on stone or in relief on steel. These dies serve to reproduce a limited number of copper stamps which compose the plates intended for the impression. These stamps, which must possess a perfect identity, are either struck separately under a press between matrices of tempered steel, or reproduced by the electrotype process. They are then placed in juxta-position and welded on to a copper plate. The first system, inaugurated in Europe in 1859, and applied especially to the French and Greek stamps of 1859 and 1861, produces plates of a fine finish and of great resistance. It gives rise to less defects in the reproduction of the engraving than the electrotype system does. Here, the work is of longer duration, and requires more attention and care. The first thing to be done is to go through the various operations of moulding the engravings and leading the imprints, putting them in the bath, and watching carefully the chemical operation which takes place, and continuing the bath so as to obtain a good metallic deposit. When this deposit is sufficient and complete, then begins the work of cleaning, tinning, filling, arranging and adjusting the clichés which are to enter into the composition of the plate. It is at this point that the work demands the most careful attention, as any appearance of uncleanness in the engraving, or the least defect in the levelling or arranging, would produce defects in the impression.

When two plates, each composed of a definite number of cuts, are finished, and have passed under the hands of the engraver, they are joined side by side in a frame, having been previously cleaned with benzine, in

order to remove any substance which might stain them. They are then ready for the printing of the sheets of stamps. This work, as well as the preceding, requires special attention, more particularly as to whether the paper intended for the impression is sufficiently glazed, and if it is not, the sheets are passed under the rollers; also as to whether the presses are provided with rollers in good condition, and whether the inks which are to be used are at the temperature required for obtaining good impressions. Then everything is put in readiness, and the proofs are produced. These proof sheets are printed with an ink, the color of which is different from that of the ink used for the value of the stamps on the plate, and they are submitted to the manager, whose duty it is to decide as to whether or not they are satisfactory, and as to whether the levelling is such as to obviate any defect in the engravings. The proof sheets are ordinarily gummed, and perforated in such a manner as to render it possible to determine as to whether the adjustment of the cuts is sufficiently exact to produce a good perforation of the stamps. In case the plate should not be entirely satisfactory, it is handed in to the electrotyping department for correction.

When the printed sheets are dry, they are transferred to the gumming department. Each sheet, as soon as it has been gummed by means of the brush, is put in a drying-room, on large hurdles, the air circulating from all sides so as to promote desiccation. This operation is the one which requires the most time, as a good workman can only gum about a thousand sheets in a day. When the gum is dry, the sheets are transferred to the perforating department. This work, which, as all know, consists in surrounding each stamp with small holes, allowing separation to be made without danger of tearing, is done by means of a special apparatus. The sheets, marked off exactly five by five on iron frames, are fastened down. They then pass over a large comb, composed of a series of squares, mounted with aluminum puncheons on each of the sides which correspond exactly to the sides of the postage stamp. The comb rises and sinks automatically, while the frame is drawn along by a mechanical movement, and in less than a minute the five sheets are properly perforated.

It sometimes happens that, unnoticed by the perforaters, some of the needles of the apparatus are broken, and others are dulled, thus producing irregularities or frets in the perforations of a certain number of sheets. These defects, which are found especially during the first years that the apparatus was used, and before the recent improvements were introduced, are very rare at the present day, and we may say that out of 10,000 sheets of postage stamps, hardly ten are rejected on account of irregularity or imperfection in the perforation.

The operation that we have just described, is the last one to which the postage stamps are subjected before they are put up for sale.

After having made a careful examination in order to ascertain whether all the sheets have been printed in accordance with the indications inscribed on the border, the manager of the store-room applies to each sheet the control mark, containing the word or mark agreed upon, followed by the date of the manufacture.

The values, joined together in packets of 25 sheets, are then counted and verified anew, and placed in the safe, until such time as they are sent to the post-offices which have charge of the sale.

(*To be continued.*)

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA (RHODESIA).

We have received the following clipping from a local newspaper, which may be of interest to our readers.

The designs for the B. S. A. Co.'s new issue of stamps have been engraved by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, and are two in number, consisting of one design for all values up to and including the 6d, and the other for the shilling and higher values. Both are of upright rectangular shape, and in the case of the former the Arms of the Company appear in the center, the value in figures on square tablets in the upper corners, and in words on a straight tablet at the base, "British" "South Africa Company," in two curved lines of Roman capitals above the Arms. The design for the higher values contains the Arms in the center, figures on top and words on base, but the words "British South Africa" above the Arms are in Roman capitals on a semi-circular tablet supported by pillars, the word "Company" being inserted within the inner curve. Although these stamps are being printed, they will not be put into use until the stock of the re-engraved stamps is exhausted (these have not yet arrived here for distribution), the first issue not being used up. When printed, four panes of 60 stamps each will form a sheet of 240 stamps, and the values will be: First design, ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 6d; second design, 1s, 2s 6d, 5s and 10s.

Since the great demand for the Cape stamps surcharged for use in this country, many forgeries of the overprint have been put into circulation, most of the counterfeits being made in London, and several dealers having been victimized with them. The type in the forged stamps is very similar, but the lettering is thinner than the genuine, and is not printed with as "fat" and glossy ink. In the genuine the ink has penetrated very deeply into the paper, and often shows through. Then again, the forged overprint has no broken types, and the A's and Y's are thinner in the fork than the originals.

A few of the old £1 blue and £2 rose are still in hand, and are being used up gradually, but there are no more £5 green or £10 brown of the first issue. For the revenue purposes new oblong labels are in use, being portion of the February, 1896, issue, in values of £50, £100 and £200.

Several articles have appeared recently in the various philatelical papers on the issues of the B. S. A. Co., but they are evidently written by tyros, as they are full of mistakes, which an application to any resident stamp collector would have put right. Nothing is said about watermarks or differences in color or paper, which are numerous and interesting.

NEW SOUTH WALES FALLS INTO LINE.

The *Australian Philatelist* reports that the excellent example set in England by the issue of "hospital" stamps (which should properly be called "hospital fund labels,") has been followed in New South Wales, with, however, a slight improvement.

The idea that these stamps should not be available for postage, and should be cast out by the stamp fraternity, appeared too monstrous to the authorities in the colony and they therefore adopted a scheme similar to that adopted in England in 1889 in relation to the Guildhall Postal Card. They have issued down there two hospital stamps of the values of 1sh and 2sh 6d respectively, and in order to give them some standing in the philatelic world they are to be admitted as postage stamps, at the respective rates of 1d and

2½d. Our Australian contemporary writes as follows: "The issue can hardly be described as speculative, such a term being usually reserved for stamps prepared with a view to enhancing the postal revenues. In this case, the Postal Department cannot reap more than the cost of production and distribution, and the collector who would reject a stamp issued for such a laudable and humanitarian object, because it is not strictly necessary from a postal point of view, is unworthy of the consideration of all right thinking philatelists."

We admire the patriotism of the writer of these words, but we scarcely think that philatelists, as a whole, will agree with any such view of the misuse of the existence of postage stamps for any such purpose as referred to herein. If such arguments were to be considered as valid, all that would be necessary in case of any public improvement contemplated in any part of the world, would be the issue of postage stamps of a high nominal value and of a low value for postal uses. In fact, it just occurs to us that it would be a great deal better for the Government of every country or colony in the world, to charge a registration fee of $1.00 to every man who collects stamps, and whenever any money is required for any purpose, to levy a tax either at so much per capita, or based on a percentage of the amount of the postage stamp holdings. We might suggest some other fiscal schemes which would be of considerable advantage to impoverished treasuries in various parts of the world, but we think it best to leave this to the ingenuity of other people.

A NEW COUNTERFEIT CONFEDERATE LOCAL.

GENUINE. GENUINE. COUNTERFEIT.

Mr. Richard R. Brown submitted to us for opinion, a few days ago, a 5c purple Athens, on original letter, and our suspicions were immediately aroused. On a careful comparison of the specimen submitted, with the genuine copies in our possession, we find that it is a forgery, and, for any one except an expert, a dangerous forgery. In fact, Mr. Brown informs us that the stamp was submitted by him to a well-known authority on Confederate locals, as well as to another so-called authority, and both pronounced in favor of its genuineness. We present herewith a photograph of the two genuine types of the Athens, they being the two stamps at the left, and also a photograph of the counterfeit in question, it being the stamp at the right. The differences between the genuine and the counterfeit are to be found on almost every line of inscription, ornamentation, etc., and we scarcely think it necessary to enter into any detailed list of these differences. Our opinion is that this new forgery is the product of the oldest factory, for counterfeits of Confederate locals, in the United States, which has been out of operation for a few years. We hope that the early discovery of the nature of the work, will prevent the working of the factory in question at full blast.

CANADA JUBILEE STAMPS.

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* for August 7th, pretends to draw a parallel between the Columbus series issued by the United States in 1893, and the Jubilee issue of Canada for 1897. We quote their words verbatim :

"The *American Journal of Philately* considers, and Mr. Nankivell echoes the opinion in his letter, that the issue of Special Jubilee stamps by the Canadian Postal Authorities is 'absolutely contemptible,' and may be regarded 'as evidence that the Canadian Postal Department is not above the very meanest shifts of petty speculation. This is somewhat tall talk. We hold no brief for the Canadian Jubilee stamps, and as all our readers are aware, we are cordial haters of anything and everything in the way of philatelic speculation, but it does strike us as a trifle impudent on the part of the *American Journal of Philately* to lecture Canada for this sort of thing. The Canadian Jubilee issue is in every respect a copy of the American Jubilee issue of 1893. In the shape of the stamps, in the general scheme, and we believe in the number and denominations the two issues are practically as like as two peas. The only difference lies in the period of availability. The American Columbus stamps were available for twelve months ; the Canadian are available for only three months. Thus the Stars and Stripes are nine months to the good, and if we may judge American opinion from the pages of the *A. J. of P.*, there is much virtue in the nine months.

We strongly disapprove of the Canadian Jubilee issue ourselves, but the sight of the American pot calling the Canadian kettle black merely moves us to laughter."

It seems almost unnecessary to answer any such dribble, but as some philatelists may be misled by the nonsense which has been written on the subject, we think it necessary only to state that if there were no other difference between the two issues, it would be sufficient for the purpose of differentiation, to state the fact that Columbus stamps were issued for *postal use*, and the Canadian stamps for anything but postal use. That this statement is not an exaggeration is proven by the fact that any value of the Columbian series could be purchased at any post-office in the Uaited States from January 1st, 1893, up to December 31st of that year, whereas, for all practical purposes, the ½, 6 and 8c stamps, as well as all the dollar values, have been sold by the Canadian Postal authorities as pretty pictures, and as such alone. Any one applying at the post office for a $1.00 stamp to prepay a letter, will be met with the reply that in order to obtain one he must buy stamps to the value of $16.21½, or, as recently modified, $2.21½, or $1.21½. The same would be true if he desired a ½c or 6c stamp for postage, and if such pictures can be likened unto postage stamps, we are unable to find the similarity. Besides that, it is a well-known fact that stamps of a high value were absolutely necessary in the United States, where, for many years, every foreign mail leaving the country bore parcels which had to be pre paid with twenty, thirty, fifty, or even more, ninety cent stamps, whereas, as far as our knowledge has gone, the necessity for such high values has never been apparent in Canada.

We have just received a copy of a circular issued this month, authorizing the distrubution to various offices of smaller sets of these stamps, including all values from ½c to 5cc and from ½c to $1.00. We are informed by some offices that their allotment of these small sets was exhausted within a few days of their being placed on sale. We append a copy of the circular in question :

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA,

POSTAGE STAMP BRANCH.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying partial sets of Jubilee stamps. These sets consist of two kinds ; one from a ½c to $1.00

(value $2.20½), the other from ½c to 50c (value $1.20½). You are instructed to sell these stamps as sets, and as sets only, representations having been made to the Department that in various parts of the Dominion there is a desire to obtain such sets for souvenir purposes. You must not, under any circumstances, break a set; for, besides the disappointment that such a course would cause, you would render yourself liable to loss the Department having decided not to allow credit for any broken sets returned to it by a Postmaster, who, notwithstanding the instructions herewith given, sells any denominations of the stamps making up a set, apart from the rest.

I am also to ask you to use your best judgement in the sale of these sets, checking, as far as possible, any attempt on the part of speculators to monopolize them, and thus securing as general a distribution of such sets in your vicinity as the circumstances may permit. To enable you to make change in connection with the sale of the enclosed sets, I include a sufficient quantity of ordinary ½c postage stamps.

I may add that the accompanying supply has been based strictly upon the annual revenue of your office, and, having regard to the total number of sets available and the extent of their distribution, represents that proportion to which you are entitled.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

E. P. STANTON,

Superintendent.

The Postmaster.

Our E. C. will, no doubt, still contend that these stamps are issued in the same manner as the Columbian series, although we are not aware of any circular issued by our P. O. Department taking these stamps so clearly out of the realm of postage stamps issued for use.

THE CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

About seventy-five members of the American Philatelic Association assembled in Boston on Tuesday, Aug. 24th, for the Twelfth Annual Convention. The sessions were held in Wesleyan Hall and were marked by great harmony and the evident desire to promote the welfare of the Association. The attendance represented an unusually large number of states.

The opening address of President Olney was interesting and commendably brief. It was followed by the appointment of the usual committees, the presentation of proxies and the casting of ballots for the annual election.

A Committee from the Boston Philatelic Society were received and extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. In response the convention voted to open its sessions to all philatelists.

The report of Secretary J. F. Beard showed a falling off in membership during the past year of 170, leaving a total of 879. These losses are to be attributed to business depression and dissatisfaction with the management of certain departments of the Association.

The report of Treasurer N. W. Chandler showed the association to be in a satisfactory financial condition. The report of International Secretary Doeblin was in his usual style and much amused the members. The reports of the Librarian, the Vice-Presidents of the branches and the various standing committees were all favorable. This ended the morning session.

The afternoon session was brief, the only business being the reading of the report of the Vice-Presidents.

The plans of the Entertainment Committee were somewhat disturbed by the inclemency of the weather, but a large party visited Bunker Hill Monu-

ment and the Navy Yard and a smaller one enjoyed the artistic display in the Public Library. In the evening many of the visitors attended the theatres.

The second day of the convention was devoted to amusement. Nearly all those in attendance, as well as the ladies with them, went on a steamer trip down the harbor, past Marblehead and Beverly to Salem Willows. Salem with its historic houses, made famous in Hawthorne's tales and by connection with many of the great names of New England history, with its museums and witch houses, was thoroughly inspected and declared by all to be most interesting. Returning to the Willows the party enjoyed a fish dinner and were photographed several times. About five o'clock they returned to Boston by boat and train.

The evening was occupied by an informal caucus at one of the hotels. While not an official meeting there is no doubt that the discussion on this occasion of several important questions, helped the members to a better understanding of them and saved a day of the Convention.

Thursday the 20th, was the busy day of the Convention. At the opening, the report of the Superintendent of the Purchasing and Sales Department was received. Following this the Committee on Credentials made their report and announced the election of the following Directors for the ensuing year:

F. F. Olney of Rhode Island, W. C. Van Derlip, John Luther Kilbon and George L. Toppan of Massachusetts, Joe F. Beard of Iowa, H. B. Phillips of California, E. Doeblin of Pennsylvania, H. G. Smith of Minnesota and George R. Tuttle of New York.

The Directors subsequently met and elected Mr. Olney, President; Messrs Van Derlip, Kilbon and Toppan, Vice-Presidents; Mr. Beard, Secretary; Mr. Doeblin, International Secretary; and Mr. Smith, Treasurer. Mr. Tuttle was appointed Superintendent of Purchasing and Sales Department.

Reports were received from various standing committees, including the recommendation of the library committee, that a permanent philatelic library be established at Pittsburg, Penn. to be in charge of two Pittsburg members, to be appointed, assisted by the librarian of the association.

Invitations were received from Omaha, Detroit, New York, Put-In-Bay, O. and Providence to hold the next convention in these cities. New York was selected after considerable of a contest, 272 votes being cast in favor of that city out of 434.

At the afternoon session the Committee on Purchasing and Sales Department reported unfavorably on the report of the late Superintendant of that department and the President appointed Messers. J. W. Scott, Geo. L. Toppan and P. M. Wolsieffer a special committee to investigate the accounts of the department.

The following officers were appointed: H. E. Deats librarian, W. C. Stone literary exchange manager, R. R. Bogert examiner of sales books, J. W. Scott counterfeit detector, J. A. Wainwright collecting agent, P. M. Wolsieffer, A. W. Bachelder and W. F. Gregory, auction and purchasing agents. All the old resident and state vice-presidents were reappointed.

The Committee on By Laws recommended a number of changes all of which were adopted. The most important were the reduction of the annual dues from $1.80 to $1.20 and making the Superintendent of Purchase and Sales Department an appointive instead of elective officer.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era* was made the official organ of the Association.

It was voted to reject the articles of incorporation in the state of Minne-

sota, which gave the name American Philatelic Society to the organization, and the directors were instructed to incorporate the organization in the state of Minnesota with the name American Philatelic Association.

It was also voted to maintain for the present our incorporation in the State of West Virginia, but as soon as incorporation is secured in Minnesota to conduct the Association under the laws of that State.

The sum of $100 was voted toward the defense fund in the suit of the United States vs. Walter S. Scott on the charge of illegal possession of newspaper and periodical stamps.

The convention adjourned to meet in New York City, August 23d, 1898.

NOTES.

The *Vertrauliche Korrespondenz Blatt*, communicates the bad news that some of the plates of Naples have been stolen. The thief must have been well up in the prices of the various values, as he took a whole plate of 120 clichés of the 50 Grana stamps, but only 15 clichés each of the ½, 1, 5, 10 and 20 Grana stamps. We understand a buyer has been found for these clichés, and we shall have to look out for reprints.

(*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*)

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According to the *Weekly Stamp News*, it is again reported that Zululand is to be annexed to Natal, and should this amalgamation take place, no doubt the special stamps of Zululand will cease to exist.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

In the June number of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, we find an article headed "St. Seebeck," in which there is reprinted from the *Union Postale* a letter addressed by Mr. Seebeck to the Government of Bolivia, offering to supply their postage stamps under the same arrangement under which he had been supplying a number of countries in South and Central America. The editors of the paper argue from this letter, that Mr. Seebeck has not lived up to the spirit of the agreement which he entered into a year ago, and we consider it a sufficient answer to state that the letter in question was written nearly three years ago, and that Mr. Seebeck has made no such offer since he entered into the agreement referred to.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

LIBERIA.—The *Philatelic Record and Stamp News* states that they have received from Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., a new design for the 3c stamp for inland postage. They say that it is a curious-looking stamp, printed in red on a background printed in pale green. Inside a key-pattern border are the words "Republica Liberia" in a curved label, then in the centre "3" with word "cents" under, and in curved label "inland postage." We cannot make out from their description whether they have only seen the design, or the adhesive stamp itself. Until further notice, we shall not include it in the catalogue.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

We read in the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* that a series of special stamps, corresponding with the other colonial issues is soon to appear for the Great Comoro Islands. These are situated half way between Madagascar and the African Coast, and consist of four larger, and a number of smaller

islands. They came under French protection in 1886, the population being estimated at 47,000, chiefly Mussulmans.

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We are informed by Mess. David Benjamin and Whitfield, King & Co, that the 18 and 24c values of the new issues of Labuan and North Borneo are to be withdrawn from use, and to be replaced by new stamps of corresponding values The change, as we are informed by Whitfield King & Co., is due to errors in the inscriptions of these two stamps. In the 18c, the inscription now reads "Postal Revenue," and in the 24c, the words "Postage and Revenue" were entirely omitted.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

PORTO RICO.—We copy the following from the *Monthly Journal:*

"We have received two curious labels, which, although of different colors, are printed upon the same piece of paper. Each is 45x40mm. in full size, as perforated, but there is a frame of fine dotted lines a little smaller. In the centre is an impression of the current adhesive, very badly printed, at the top the word 'CENTENARIO,' at foot 'SITIO DE LOS INGLESES.' (Siege by the English), at left '1797,' at right '1897.' We gather that these commemorate the Centenary of an unsuccessful attempt on our part to capture Porto Rico in 1797, an event with which English philatelists can hardly be expected to sympathize; so we will only add that both labels are of the same value, 3c de peso, and that they are printed in carmine and deep blue, upon white laid paper."

CHRONICLE.

UNITED STATES—Mr. W. C. Eaton has sent us samples of two colors of the 8c stamp of the current issue, plate No. 249, one being in the regular puce shade, which has been in use for some time, and the other in brown violet.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

8c brown violet (shade)

BELGIUM.—The "*Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*" states that the 50c stamp printed in gray has really appeared, although our correspondent in Belgium has not, up to this writing, informed us of the fact.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14 x13½.

50c gray

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. send us samples of two different printings of the recent surcharge on the Cape of Good Hope ½p emerald green, chronicled in our July number. In the first type the distance between BRITISH and BECHUANALAND measures 13½mm., whereas in the second setting it is only 10mm.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Anchor.
Perforated 14.
½p emerald green, black surcharge

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.—In addition to the previously listed stamps of the current issue of Zanzibar, surcharged for use in BRITISH EAST AFRICA, we understand that the 4a value has been maltreated with the surcharge "BRITISH-EAST-AFRICA 2½."

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked a flower.
Perforated 14.
2½a on 4a black, green and red

CHINA.—Among a small lot of stamps, we find a surcharge which has not yet been chronicled by us, viz: 10c surcharged on 6c brown.

Adhesive stamp.
Provisional issue.
Watermarked a shell.
Perforated 12.
10c on 6c brown, black surcharge

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—We learn from the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* that the 20c stamp of the current issue, which has hitherto appeared in brown on blue, is now issued in light brown on light green paper.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated.
20c light brown, *green*

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—The 2c stamp of the current issue has appeared in a new shade, being a distinct vermilion instead of rose.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated 14.
2c vermilion (shade)

ECUADOR.—In addition to the 5c value of the new type chronicled last month we have received the 2c and 10c. The engraving is very fine, and the work appears to be of English origin.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 15½.
2c vermilion
10c dark brown

In addition to the values of the Jubilee issue chronicled last month, with the surcharge of Coat-of-Arms and "CORREOS PROVISIONALES," we have now received the 1c stamp of the same issue.

Provisional Issue.

Perforated 11½.

Surcharged

1c rose, black surcharge

We learn from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* that some additional surcharges have been made on the envelopes of the 1894 issue, the 10c having been surcharged 1895 96, to correspond with the 5c issued about a year ago, the 5c being surcharged 1897 98.

Envelopes.

5c dark green on white, surcharged "1897-98" in black
10c carmine on amber, surcharged "1895-96" in black

ERITREA.—The *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* has received the new 5c stamp of Italy, surcharged "COLONIA ERITREA," for use in that colony.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14.

5c green, black surcharge

FRANCE.—Mr. A. Lohmeyer has sent us a new 50 centimes Pneumatic Letter Card differing in the inscriptions from the previous issue. The new card reads "CARTE PNEUMATIQUE FERMÉE." We shall illustrate it next month.

Pneumatic Letter Card.

50c black, *blue*, perforated 111

French Offices in Zanzibar.—One of our correspondents informed us some time ago that the stamps used at the French Offices in Zanzibar were to be modified by the addition of ZANZIBAR to the values in Indian currency. The *Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* now states that this is an accomplished fact, and lists the entire series.

Adhesive stamps

Perforated 14x13½.

½a on 5c green, *greenish*
1a on 10c black, *lavender*
1½a on 15c blue
2a on 20c red, *green*
2½a on 25c black, *rose*
3a on 30c brown, *bistre*
4a on 40c red, *straw*
5a on 50c rose, *rose*
10a on 1f bronze green, *straw*
50a on 5f lilac, *lavender*

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—Not to be behind some of their larger brothers the Government of the Leeward Islands celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria by a special issue of stamps. In this case, however, surcharging was resorted to, and the entire series of stamps of the current issue was defaced by a black overprint in the shape of a round garter with buckle, inscribed "SEXAGENARY—1897" in the outer and "V. R. I." in monogram in the inner circle. The quantity printed was limited, although the figures have not yet come to hand, and a pretty speculation has been the result. These stamps may be very interesting from the standpoint of loyalty, but we hope that stamp collectors will close their purse strings against them.

Adhesive stamps.

Provisional Jubilee Issue.

Surcharged

Watermarked Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
½p green & mauve
1p carmine & "
2½p blue & "
4p orange & "
6p brown & "
7p slate & "
1sh rose & green
5sh blue & "

LIBERIA.—The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* states that the registration envelope of the current type has appeared in a new shade.

Registration envelope.

Size, 130x80mm.

10c gray green, *white*

MEXICO.—Mr. S. Chapman has now sent us the new 2c wrappers, which correspond exactly with those of the 1c value chronicled by us in May of this year. They have the stamp of the current type, and the inscriptions are similar to those of the preceding issue, being in red on the one issued for interior use, and in green on the Postal Union wrapper. The paper is a thin manilla, highly glazed on the surface.

Wrappers.

Thin manilla paper, highly glazed on the surface.

Truncated flap at the right.

Size, 250x85 mm.

2c red, red inscription, for the interior use

2c red, green inscription, for international use

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Jubilee stamps announced some time ago, were duly placed on sale on June 26th, and of course no objection can be raised to them from any standpoint, as they are to replace the corresponding

values of the previous issue, and are to remain in use for an indefinite period. The designs are scarcely up to what we expected, considering the laudations which they received in their native land, and we must think that art has not as yet reached a very high stage in the antipodes. At the same time, the 5/- stamp of the old design has been re-issued on paper watermarked 5/- and perforated 11.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and N. S. W.

Perforated 11x11½.
1p carmine
2p deep blue
2½p royal purple
Watermarked 5/-
Perforated 11.
5s dark purple

NICARAGUA.—In examining the cases of stamps of the 1890 issue which were returned to Mr. Seebeck by the Government of Nicaragua in 1891, and which were turned over to Mr. G B. Calman, in pursuance of a contract entered into between him and Mr. Seebeck, a number of new and interesting varieties were found. We list them herewith :

Adhesive stamps.

Imperforate.

2c vermilion
5c blue
10c slate
50c violet
1p dark brown
2p green
10p oraneg

Imperforate vertically.

5c blue
10c slate

Official stamps without surcharge.

Perforated 12.

1c ultramarine
2c ultramarine
5c ultramarine
10c ultramarine
20c ultramarine
50c ultramarine
1p ultramarine
2p ultramarine
5p ultramarine
10p ultramarine

Imperforate.

2c ultramarine
5c ultramarine
20c ultramarine
50c ultramarine
5p ultramarine

Imperforate vertically.

5c ultramarine

PARAGUAY.—As announced some time ago, we have now received the 10c stamp of the current type without a hole being punched into each stamp. There are two distinct shades, one being ultramarine, and the other steel blue.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 12½.

10c steel blue
10c ultramarine

ST. VINCENT.—We are informed by Mr. E. Lander, that new stamps of the values of 2½d and 5d were issued on the 13th of July, replacing the surcharged stamps issued some years ago. Mr. Berlepsch has shown us the stamps, which are of the regular St. Vincent type.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

2½p milky blue
5p slate brown

SALVADOR.—It appears that, in accordance with a recent decree, the postal rate for foreign letters has been increased to 13c, on account of the fall in silver, making the present rate about equivalent to the regular international rate of 5c. It may appear to be due to the spirit of speculation that many different values were surcharged in order to produce the stamp of the new value, but it is only fair to consider that in receiving supplies of their various issues of stamps, the governments of Central America have been in the habit of receiving an equal number of each one of the higher values, and hence, in making any new surcharge, it is but natural for them to try to avoid drawing too heavily upon any one value, and perhaps exhausting that entirely, leaving other values on hand, for which there might be less inquiry. In order to meet this contingency, the 24, 30, 50 and 100c stamps have all been surcharged with the new value, and also the 15c envelope.

Adhesive stamps,

Provisional Issue.

Surcharged **TRECE centavos**

Perf. 12.

13c on 24c yellow, red surcharge
13c on 50c rose, black surcharge
13c on 50c purple, black surcharge
13c on 100c carmine brown, black surcharge

Envelope.

Size, 151x91 mm.

13c on 15c black, red surcharge

SERVIA.—The *Monthly Journnl* states that one para stamps exist perforated 11½ all around, as well as in the regular perf. 13x13½. It is said that specimens of both perforations have been seen with cancellations early in 1896, so that it is likely that both varieties were issued simultaneously.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 11½.

1 par dull red

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *Monthly Journal* states that the 3 pence was issued in Perf. 13, on May 31st.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 13.

3 pence deep gray green

SWITZERLAND.—We have just received a new 5c wrapper, the type being altered somewhat from the previous issue, it being now the same as the stamp on the current issue of postal cards. The chief difference is in the Coat of Arms placed above the numerals of value.

Wrapper.

Size?

5c carmine, *yellow*

TASMANIA.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* announces the 5s stamp in the current type.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14.

5s violet and red

TONGA.—We have just received an entirely new series for use in these islands, and we of course are happy to find that the postal necessities of this important division of the world have grown to such an enormous extent, that in place of a set of stamps consisting of four or five values, it has been necessary to increase the supply to fourteen, running from ½d to 5 shillings. The illustrations which we publish herewith will make a detailed description unnecessary; and we can only add that, for the first time in its history, Tonga has a set of stamps which is finely engraved and truly artistic. The paper is watermarked with a pattern of turtles swimming in different directions. We presume this is intended to indicate that the stamps are to be sent swimming to stamp collectors in all parts of the world. The 2, 2½ 5, 7½, 10p and 1s are all of one type

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked

Perforated 14.
½p blue
1p carmine brown and black
2p bistre and black
2½p light blue and black
3p emerald green and black
4p mauve and green
5p orange and black
6p red
7½p green and black
10p carmine and black
1s purple brown and black
2s dark ultramarine and black
2s 6p violet
5s brown red and black

TWO SICILIES—Sicily.—In an article on the postage stamps of Naples and Sicily by Dr. Emilio Diena, published in the *Timbre Poste*, we find that the doctor admits the genuineness of a ½ grano stamp printed in blue. He gives his reasons for the admission of this variety as a genuine one, and we suppose that the stamp will have to be recognized in catalogues in future.

Adhesive stamp.

Imperforate.
½grano blue, error

THE MARKET.

Auction Sale of Chevely & Co., July 9th, 1897.

EUROPE.

Prussia (1861-65) 2sgr, Prussian blue, mint condition,	$15.00

AMERICA.

Dominica, CA, 1sh carmine, unused, mint condition,	11.00
St. Lucia, first issue, blue, unused, fine	11.87
— same issue, green, similar,	13.75
— CA, 6d lilac, unused, mint,	7 00
— same issue, 1sh orange, mint,	18.75
Nevis, 1sh yellow green, No. 2 on plate, fine,	13.75
— another, No. 8, fine,	13.75
— another, No. 9, fine,	14.37
— another, No. 12, fine,	13.75
— 6d litho, No. 11 on plate, unused, mint condition,	47.50
— another, No. 12, similar condition,	45.00
— CA, 6d green, mint condition,	28.75
Virgin Islands, 1sh, with outer line, unused, mint condition,	14.37

Auction sale of Cheveley & Co., July 22nd and 23rd, 1897.

EUROPE.

Switzerland, "Rayon 11," 1crap, with border to cross,	$ 11.25
Great Britain, 10d brown, octagonal, unique block of three, in mint state. Two of the stamps have the die number (1) on the base of neck, but the third stamp shows no trace of this,	175.00

ASIA.

Ceylon, 8d, imperf., fine specimen, large margins at top and right side, others rather close,	82.50
India, the rare ½anna red, superb unused pair, no gum,	57 50

AMERICA.

St Lucia, first issue, blue, unused, fine,	10 50
— same issue, green, similar,	11.00
— CA, 6d lilac, unused, mint,	10.50
— CA, 1sh orange, unused, mint,	16 00
Nevis, 1sh yellow-green, No. 2 on plate, fine,	12.50
— another, No. 8, fine,	12.00
— another, No. 9, fine,	12 00
— another, No. 12, fine,	12.00
— 6d litho, No. 11 on plate, unused, mint,	43 75
— another, No. 12, similar,	43 75
St. Christopher, CA, 4d blue unused, original gum, slight crease,	16.87
Buenos Ayres, Steamship, 4 pesos, red, very small tear at top, otherwise good specimen,	42.50
United States, (1861) 5c mustard, unused and very fine, but no gum,	17 50
Turk's Islands, (1893) the extremely rare provisional ½d on 4d gray, fine unused strip of 6, mint,	80.00
Virgin Islands, first issue, 1sh carmine and black, thin outer line, unused, mint,	15.00
— a grand used specimen of same,	13.12
Bahamas, no watermark, 4d rose, fine unused pair, mint condition,	72.50
— ditto, 6d, gray lilac, similar pair,	72.50
St. Vincent, star, 1sh lake, perf. 11½, unused, mint,	23.75

Auction sale of Puttick & Simpson, July 27th, 1897.

Brunswick: Percé, ½ gros. black on green, unused and fine, full gum, with Expert Committee's guarantee,	$22.50
Gilbraltar: first issue, 1sh brown, unused and fine, no gum,	10.50
Great Britain: V. R., 1d, black, strip of three, unused, mint state, cut rather close at left side, but in all other respects superb,	170.00
— octagonal, 10d brown, die No. 4, unused, gum and large margins all around, very fine,	15.00
— £5. orange on bluish, postally used and fine,	10.00
Straits Settlements, Wmk. C C., Perf. 12½, 96c gray, unused, mint state,	15.00
Cape of Good Hope: Woodblock, 1d scarlet, very fine, small margins, lightly penmarked,	11.00
— woodblock 4d blue, large margins and lightly postmarked, superb,	10.00
Nova Scotia: 6d, dark green, very fine, postmark barely perceptible,	10.00
Nevis: Perf. 15, litho. 4p orange, entire unsevered sheet, very fine and extremely rare,	350.00
— Perf. 15, litho. 6d gray, entire reconstructed plate, all unused, and mostly with gum, No. 4 is thinned, No. 7 is creased, and No. 8 is slightly torn, others all fine, including a pair,	450.00
— Perf. 15, litho. 6d gray, a single, unused, mint state (No. 2 on plate),	41.25
— ditto, another, used and fine (No. 6 on plate), on entire original with fine 4d blue, CA.	33.75
— Watermarked CA, 6d green, unused, with gum, very fine,	27.50
St. Lucia, Watermarked CA, 6d lilac, unused, mint state,	11.50
— Watermarked CA, 1sh orange, unused and fine, no gum,	15.00
British Honduras: Watermarked CC, Perf. 14, 6d rose, unused and fine, with gum,	12.50

STATEN ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Branch of the A. P. A.

Meetings held the third Tuesday of each month, at 8o'clock P. M., at Loescher's Hotel, 36 Canal St., Stapleton, S. I., N. Y.

President, AUGUST DEJONGE.
Secretary, ROBERT S. LEHMAN.

For information address the Secretary, 210 E. 35th St., N. Y.

Communications relating to the Exchange Department address to Edgar R. Carter, Box 26 Tompkinsville, S. I., N. Y.

Communications relating to Examination of Stamps Department, address Henry Clotz, P. O. Box 999, N. Y. City.

173d Meeting held August 19th 1897.

The meeting was called to order at 8.30 p.m. with the following members present: President Dejonge in the chair.

Messrs. Henry Clotz, Oscar Dejonge, C. B. Corwin, R. F. Albrecht, Adolph Lienhardt, E. R. Carter, Hugo Kessler, R. S. Lehman and Chas. Horrmann.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

A Friend presents a large lot of newspapers and philatelic publications. Mr. Stone, a copy of the *Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society No* 42. Mr. P. G. Tessier, a complete set of the New Foundland Jubilee Stamps in mint state. Mr. C. B. Corwin a fine lot of counterfeits, as well as some postal curiosities and photographs of many rare stamps. Bogert & Durbin Co., priced catalogue of their 86th auction sale. Stanley Gibbons, L d., a copy each of parts II and III, of their 1897 price catalogue. The thanks of the Society are tendered to the kind donors.

Mr. Oscar Dejonge presents the Society with a copy of the Favorite Album for United States stamps partly filled, which will be sent to any member desiring to contribute stamps in order to fill the vacant spaces, and thus complete this special collection. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr.

Dejonge for his fine gift. All members who wish to donate toward this collection are respectfully requested to communicate with the Secretary.

A letter from Mrs. Madge P. Tiffany was read, in which she thanked the Society for its resolutions of sympathy upon the decease of her husband, our late respected honorary member, John K. Tiffany.

Mr. Gustave Loescher was unanimously elected as Steward of the Society, vice Louis Loescher, deceased.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.15 P.M., whereupon exhibition of stamps followed. Mr. Carter submitted for selection a fine lot of exchange circuit books.

Next meeting will be held September 17, 1897.

ROBERT S. LEHMAN, *Secretary*, 210 E. 35th St., N. Y.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB.

351 Fourth Avenue, New York.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

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Directory.

First Floor.—Office and Assembly Room.—*Second Floor.*—Library.—Room of The Philatelic Society, *front.*—Room of National Society, *rear.*—*Third Floor.*—Guests Chambers.—*Basement.*—Billiard Room.

Admittance by Membership Card.

Notice of coming events and applications for membership will be found posted on the bulletin boards. For special information inquire of the House Committee.

Thirteenth meeting of the Board of Governors held at Club House, 351 Fourth Avenue, August 9, 1897.

Present, Messrs. Scott, Nast, Lynde and the Secretary.

Mr. Nast was unanimously chosen temporary Chairman.

Called to order at 8.30 P.M.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The Secretary read letter from Rev. John Luther Kilbon, Boston, for the information of Governors.

The Secretary was instructed to discontinue sending minutes to papers which do not publish them.

The report of special Committee on Expenses of addition to billiard room was then received, and the Committee was authorized to negotiate with landlord for an extension of lease for a period not longer than five years, at an increased rental of about $100 per annum, provided the landlord built the extension at his own expense and according to such specifications as may be agreed upon.

Treasurer's report was accepted. Balance in bank, $743.09 on August 1:

House Committee report received.

The following applications for membership were posted on bulletin board.

(30). J. J. Sullivan, 441 Broadway, N. Y. Proposed by Chas. D. W. Drew. Seconded by F. E P. Lynde.

(31). George H. Mathews, as a stockholder, 143 Passaic Avenue. Rutherford, N. J. Proposed by F. E. P. Lynde. Seconded by J. W. Scott,

(32). W. P. Todd. Morristown, N. J. Proposed by J. W. Scott. Seconded by W. S. Scott. Adjourned at 9.40 P.M. J. M. ANDREINI, *Secy.*